

Racists, Klansmen Terrorize Georgia Farm Community

By Hollace Ransdell

The little-known story of violence, terrorism and boycott being waged against a small religious farming community in Georgia, as told by its director the Rev. Clarence Jordan, highlighted the ninth annual conference of the National Civil Liberties Clearing House held here.

Koinonia is an interracial agricultural cooperative in Sumter county near Americus, Ga. It has, or did have until recently, some 60 people in the colony, a number of them families with children. About a fourth of them are Negroes.

Campaign of Terrorism

The community was started in 1942 by a group of southerners who sought to put into practice the Christian principle of no racial discrimination in running their cooperative farm.

Koinonia prospered, growing from 440 to 1,100 acres, and had friendly and peaceful relations with the surrounding community until about a year ago when a campaign of terrorism began aimed at driving the residents of Koinonia away and ruining their farms.

Jordan told the conference that the attacks on Koinonia came as part of the "backlash" from the U. S. Supreme Court's school desegregation decision.

Merchants refused to sell supplies or to buy Koinonia products. Pistol shots were fired at a roadside stand and later the stand was twice dynamited. Residents including children were fired on and shots whistled through houses, one of them nearly hitting an 11-year-old girl; another just missed Mr. Jordan's daughter.

A farm house was burned, and many other acts of violence were perpetrated under cover of darkness. On several occasions, crosses were burned in front of Negro homes.

Not Free to Say

When Jordan tried to talk to some of the merchants who formerly were friendly but now refused to sell to or buy from the farm, he said he was struck by the fact that most of them used the same phrase in answer to his question, "why?"

"I am not free to say," they replied.

Rev. Jordan's story of Koinonia provided a dramatic case study of flagrant violations of civil liberties now going on. Other conference speakers covered related areas of civil liberties and civil rights.

Ben Segal, trade union consultant for the Fund for the Republic, chaired a session on the industrial security program and individual liberties at which George MacClain, official of the Dept. of Defense, explained how the department's security program works.

Ed Rovner, assistant general counsel of the Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers, challenged MacClain, declaring that the government's present industrial security program can easily lend itself to revival of the hated labor spy system in industry. One of the effects of the program, he said, "is to place obstacles in the path of the unions insofar as policing collective bargaining contracts in plants where the program is applied."

Employers who are authorized to grant clearance, Rovner said, can institute a "network of undercover agents easily susceptible of use to bring back the unconscionable labor spy practice."

Sen. Richard L. Neuberger (D-Ore.) told the conference that anyone slandered on the floor of Congress or before an investigating committee should have a right to sue the government for slander.

Elnor Roper, chairman of the board for the Fund for the Republic, noted some of the encouraging signs in today's civil liberties field. "It is my belief," he said, "that

Americans are now developing a better balance between liberty and security than we have had since the cold war began."

Boris Shishkin, director of the AFL-CIO's Dept. of Civil Rights, told the conference that labor is very deeply concerned with equal job opportunities and housing.

Herbert Hill, labor secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, described some of the possible effects of automation on Negroes. "The fact that there is a great concentration of Negro workers in the ranks of the unskilled and semi-skilled," he said, "means that the increasing introduction of advanced methods of production will result in the wholesale displacement of Negroes currently employed in unskilled jobs."

KOINONIA STORY-NO. 1

Sumter Grand Jury Probes Violence on Race-Mix Farm

Editor's Note: Koinonia Farms, near Americus, is in the news with a controversy over race mixing. Here is the first of a six-part series on this explosive situation. This first article presents the broad, overall picture. Subsequent articles, appearing daily in The Atlanta Journal, will examine Koinonia in detail.

By JOHN PENNINGTON
Atlanta Journal Staff Writer
AMERICUS, Ga., April 13—The gently rolling farm land along the

Dawson highway southwest of here looks deceptively peaceful. Cattle graze on green pastures. Neat, white farmhouses overlook the cultivated fields. Here and there a tractor turns the soil.

Some of the farms along the way have names. One is Sunny Acres. Another is called after the whispering pines that sway in its farmyard. Still another is named Koinonia Farms, Incorporated.

KOINONIA ENCOMPASSES a stretch of nearly 1,100 acres of that peaceful-looking countryside on the Dawson road. It appears much as the farms that surround it. But Koinonia is different. It is populated by 29 whites and six Negroes who live together in a communal, unsegregated fellowship.

This has not been accepted lightly in normally segregated Americus and Sumter County.

Reaction to the Koinonia race mixing has been explosive.

Violence has rocked this peaceful-looking community, and a close-up view of bullet-marked buildings at Koinonia belies the solitude appearance of the scene.

THE WELCOME SIGN in front of Koinonia, which pictures a Christian cross and a pair of shak-

the shooting and blasting was done by prejudiced, color-conscious outsiders who were roused to anger by the whites and Negroes working and playing and living together at Koinonia.

WHATEVER THE answer, one does not have to travel far in this agricultural section of southwest Georgia to find the conversation turned to Koinonia Farms, Incorporated.

As a topic of local talk, it is hotter than a south Georgia cotton field in mid-July. It has been talked so much that just about everybody knows how to pronounce the knotty Greek name, Koinonia, by which the farm is called. (It's pronounced coin - o - nee - /ah).

What is this Koinonia? The answer comes in two versions, pro and con, and the ramifications are many.

The controversy goes much beyond the one issue of race-mixing.

KOINONIA HAS BEEN assailed by many charges. They came from the Sumter Grand Jury, which recently concluded an investigation of the communal farm and returned a lengthy presentment on it.

The farm and its occupants were blasted at length and in detail by the jury. The jury said it felt "impelled to submit to the public"

ing hands, has been rocked by rifle and pistol shots. Farm buildings and machinery bear the marks of fire, dynamite and buckshot.

There currently is no little debate in these parts as to who is responsible for the violence. The Sumter County Grand Jury, November term, deliberating in special session, concluded in its formal presentments that the violence was precipitated by the Koinonians themselves. They did it, said the jury, to evoke sympathy and money from people throughout the land.

Residents of the farm insist that

1. That only Koinonia has profited from acts of violence at the farm, that "the weight of evidence" indicates the violence was done from within the farm, and that the acts have been exaggerated by Koinonia for propaganda purposes.

2. That Koinonia's claim to Christianity is "sheer window dressing," and that its leader, Clarence Jordan, made sworn statements to the jury which it did not believe.

3. That Koinonia's mail order

market business has swelled since the violence started, and that "certain individuals are amassing to themselves enormous profits."

4. That Koinonia's bank account does not reflect the gifts that it has received since the violence started.

5. That the farm has suffered only \$7,000 damage, while receiving some money from an insurance company and \$27,516.98 in gifts since violence started, leaving a profit of more than \$20,000.

6. That the Americus and Sumter County Ministerial Assn. should be "mildly rebuked" for its comment on Koinonia. The group deplored violence and called for protection of the property of others.

7. That Koinonians, while professing brotherhood, had Negroes in their midst who have "relegated themselves into a status of brain-washed peonage."

8. That Koinonia is a "haven for conscientious objectors," and has "a strong filial connection" with the Communist Party.

9. The jury concluded that "the reported violence at Koinonia Farm, Inc., can and will be stopped when Koinonia Farm, Inc., sees fit to stop such violence."

KOINONIANS emphatically denied affiliation with the Communist Party.

They denied profiting from the acts of violence.

They agreed that they would refuse to serve in the armed forces of the United States, because of conscientious objection to violence, and that they do not pay state and federal income taxes because Koinonia is chartered as a non-profit organization.

Clarence Jordan, a native Georgian who is one of the farm's founders, and Norman Long, Koinonia president, gave their version of the farm's purpose:

That is, they said, to bring together a spiritual family into a "church-community" where is practiced "a way of life that Jesus taught — a life of love, of brotherhood, of peace, of non-violence, of sharing, of togetherness."

THE STATED purpose is epitomized in the Greek name, Koinonia, which means fellowship.

Residents of the farm community participate in a communal way of life, with a common sharing of goods, distribution according to need, and a belief that "there must be no favorite children, whether they are blondes or

brunettes, white or black."

The controversy boils down to this: While the grand jury and citizens accuse them of being insincere race-mixers and draft and tax dodgers, the Koinonians insist they are members of a "self-supporting church," entitled to their beliefs and their way of life, unmolested.

NEXT: The Sumter County Grand Jury report in detail and the Koinonia reply in The Atlanta Journal.



Staff Photo—John Pennington

BULLET HOLES DOT WELCOMING SIGNS Farm's Name Means "Fellowship"

HERE'S BRIEF OUTLINE OF KOINONIA SERIES

John Pennington, Atlanta Journal staff writer, is well qualified to investigate and report the Koinonia story. A native of Andersonville in Sumter County, he is a combat infantry veteran of World War II. He graduated from the University of Georgia with a degree in journalism. At Georgia he was editor of the Red and Black, the student newspaper. Since joining The Atlanta Journal in 1951, his stories have won numerous professional awards.

Here is a brief outline of subsequent articles in the Koinonia story as they will appear in The Atlanta Journal:

No. 2—Sumter Grand Jury report in detail.

No. 3—More Grand Jury charges and Koinonia replies.

No. 4—Why Koinonia was located in white-supremacy Georgia.

No. 5—The background of Koinonia Farms members.

No. 6—Reactions of Americus and Sumter County to Koinonia.



John Pennington

Cook To Study Koinonia Supporters

Constitution
Atty. Gen. Eugene Cook said Wednesday he will investigate the background of contributors to Koinonia Farm, the bi-racial project near Americus, Ga.

Cook said a list of contributors had been made available to him by a source he did not disclose.

He said a recent Sumter County grand jury report spoke of "close kinship between the Communist Party and Koinonia Farm."

The study of backgrounds of contributors to the farm will be made, Cook said, "solely for the purpose of determining what affiliation they may or may not have with subversive activities."

Cook is charged with administering Georgia's anti-Subversives Act.

A recent controversial U. S. Supreme Court decision threw out a state sedition statute on the ground that Congress had preempted the field. Critics claim it invalidates the anti-sedition laws of 41 states.

Cook said that "while the decision may have invalidated the power to prosecute, it did not invalidate the authority to investigate."

He added that according to his information, most of the contributions to Koinonia Farm came from outside Georgia.

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KOINONIA FARM
BI-RACIAL COMMUNITY
(AMERICUS, GA.)

**BI-RACIAL FARM
IS SHOT AT AGAIN**

AMERICUS, GA. Feb. 2 (AP) Another shooting incident has been reported at Koinonia Farm, a bi-racial community about eight miles southwest of Americus, Ga. Clarence Jordan, treasurer of the farm, said that between 10 and 12 shots were fired into farm buildings last night from two cars. One bullet went through a window and narrowly missed an 11-year old girl who was lying on a bed, he said. No one was injured, however. On Tuesday seven bullets were fired into a tenant house on the farm and another bullet struck a car beside the house. No injuries were reported. Late last year a dynamite charge thrown from a moving car ripped open a roadside produce stand and grocery operated by the farm. It was repaired and continued in use until another blast, followed by fire, destroyed it early in January. Between the two explosions bullets were fired into the structure.

Evening Star
P.5
Sat. 2-2-57
Washington, D.C.

**Klan To Seek Purchaser
For Ga. Biracial Farm**

*Constitution Mon. 2-25-57
Atlanta, Ga. P.5*
AMERICUS, Feb. 24 (AP)—Ku Klux Klansmen met in the open with representatives of Koinonia Farms Sunday in an effort to arrange a sale of the biracial agricultural undertaking that has been the scene of bombs, bullets and burnings the past few months.

The brief meeting went off without any trouble. Klansmen, who said they were present merely as interested citizens, agreed to try and find a purchaser. Members of the communal farm said they would consider any offer.

The farm, comprising about 1,100 acres of better-than-average farm land and approximately a dozen buildings, has been valued at more than \$150,000.

60 WHITES, NEGROES

This is what led up to the unusual session between members of the pro-segregation KKK and leaders of the communal farm where some 60 whites and Negroes have lived and worked together for years:

About 150 robed but unmasked members of the South Georgia Division of the KKK—among them 10 or 15 robed women—attended a public meeting at the Americus Fair Grounds.

Speakers urged members to stand united in the fight for segregation, but emphasized that there must be no violence.

The meeting adjourned and members took off their robes. Then they formed a 70-car motorcade and drove some eight miles southwest of Americus to Koinonia Farms.

The motorcade stopped and three spokesmen walked onto the farm grounds and met with Norman Long, work coordinator, and other members of the farm.

Rudy Hayes, a reporter of The Americus Times-Recorder, was present and described the meeting as "congenial." He said the Koinonia people were asked if they would sell and that they said they would consider any offer.

He also said they were asked if they were Communists and they

replied "No, they were not, unless Jesus Christ was a Communist."

Hayes said that the KKK spokesmen, who were not identified, said that their only objection to the farm was its integrated life.

After the talk, he said, the KKK spokesmen left quickly. Other members of the motorcade remained in their cars.

Later, Long said he told the Klan spokesmen they were ready to discuss "any suggestion with anyone about our life here and what is going on."

"MATTER OF PRINCIPAL"

"If anyone makes us an offer we'll consider it, but we're making no commitments. There is more here than a way of life, it is a matter of principal."

Hayes said that C. E. Freeman of Macon, grand titan of the sixth province, was the highest ranking KKK member present at the meeting in Americus. He said klansmen present came from Macon, Warner Robins, Cochran, Vienna, Moultrie, Albany, Americus and Waycross.

**Cook Refuses Invitation
To Visit Bi-Racial Farm**

*Constitution Thurs. 3-7-57
Atlanta, Ga. P.6*
Atty. Gen. Eugene Cook Wednesday declined an invitation to visit Koinonia Farm in the state's investigation of the biracial, communal development near Americus.

"I certainly will not," he said in response to a letter from Norman R. Long, Koinonia president, asking him "personally to inspect our way of life at any time."

The attorney general declined any further comment on the letter, which also asked for a direct

nothing tangible had been turned up.

Long wrote that he had heard that the attorney general said "Communists have been known to visit Koinonia on more than one occasion."

He declared that none had to his knowledge and the 1,100-acre farm operation has "no connection with any other organization anywhere in the world—including the Communist Party."

He noted that Marxist Communism is committed to the overthrow of rival governments by violence and declared:

"We at Koinonia, as followers of Jesus Christ, are dedicated to the very opposite way: the practice of non-violence and love in all our relationships."

"Finally," his letter said, "we welcome your further investigation. Koinonia is an open book to all who would sincerely seek to know what we do and believe."

The little community, integrated since 1954, consists of 45 white and 15 Negroes working together. The 1,000 well-acred farm land is valued at an estimated \$200,000.

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cross bur
boycott.
So far
rests in
turbances.

So far there have been no rests in connection with the disturbances.

The development was established 15-years ago as an interdenominational religious project under a

Sheriff Fred D. Chappell
an investigation. Jordan said
officer cruised around some
trying to find some trace
culprit but with no success

Georgia Bi-Racial
advertise 7.1
Farm Buying
Oct. 4, 1957
Jersey Site
Michigan
Farm, a Christian agricultural community in Americus, Ga., currently under fire there because it

Boycott Paralyzes Bi-Racial Koinonia

Journal + Constitution
Atlanta Ga. P. 7-A
Americus Experiment in Mixed Living

Brings Out Both Extremes of Opinion

Jan 2-17-57
By JIM LAXSON

AMERICUS, Ga., Feb. 16 (P)—Is biracial Koinonia Farms a dedicated way of life in the brotherhood of man or a "cancer" on the community which should be eradicated?

Both extremes of opinion are found in this explosive situation where Negroes and whites work, live and play together.

The controversial, all-for-one and one-for-all agricultural undertaking has been rocked with violence after nearly 14 years of peaceful relations with this southwest Georgia agriculture and livestock center.

The unique communal farm of some 60 whites and Negroes has survived bombs, bullets and burnings during the past six months, but now an economic boycott threatens the thriving cooperative.

THE REV. CLARENCE Jordan, cofounder in 1942 of the nonprofit, nondenominational corporation, describes the farm as a religious community "practicing Christian brotherhood."

"Koinonia was founded after deep religious considerations of our commitment to Jesus," the white, Georgia-born Baptist clergyman said. "We are not concerned with integration or segregation, only the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man. It is in that sphere we find our togetherness."

At nearby Americus, the anger of some of the townspeople has reached a white-hot peak over the farm's "flaunting" its integration practices.

"The people have had it up to here," said Sheriff Fred Chappell of Sumter County (population about 25,000, half Negroes). "We get reports of whites and Negroes strolling down the streets together in Americus. One report said a white girl and two Negro boys walked down the street all eating popcorn out of the same bag. They

GEORGIA

in his work. He is an ordained Baptist minister, a graduate of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky.

He earned a masters degree in 1936, a Ph.D. in 1939. He holds a bachelor's degree in agriculture from the University of Georgia.

JORDAN SAID boycotts and economic sanctions grew until now they are complete and effective.

He said townspeople won't buy from the farm and won't sell to them.

"They refuse us services, they won't repair our vehicles, they refuse to do business with us in any way. We have to bring in building supplies, butane gas and feed from the outside—50 to 75 miles away. Our insurance policies have been canceled.

James R. Blair, editor and publisher of The Americus Times-Recorder, said objections to the farm have increased to the point that "more than 90 per cent of our people wish it weren't there.

"It's like a cancer on the community and we ought to get rid of it," he said. "We don't agree with what they are doing but we deplore the violence."

Eugene Horne, head of the Sumter County chapter of the States Rights Council of Georgia, said the sentiment is "universally hostile . . . a very loathsome and obnoxious thing."

AFTER THE roadside stand was leveled, the Americus and Sumter County Ministerial Assn. adopted a resolution deploring "the use of violence in any form against property and-or persons because of their personal beliefs which do not endanger the rights of others. . . ."

The Americus chapter of the National Assn. for the Advancement of Colored People has been inactive for five or six years. Sam Weston, a Negro tailor and former active member, said the organization "wouldn't lower its dignity to bother with" the situation at the farm.

"It's none of our business," he said.

Charles Crisp, president of the Bank of Commerce, said he would not do business with the farm "because I have no confidence in them."

Fred Bowen is mayor of Amer-

icus and a dealer in a major tractor line. He joined the boycott also.

"MY BUSINESS dealings were very satisfactory," he said. "They paid their bills, but I have a tractor on practically every farm from here to the county line and public sentiment forced me to quit them."

Koinonia Farms, straddling Highway 49 about 10 miles from Americus, grew to 1,100 acres from an original 400 acres. About 350 acres presently are under cultivation, another 300 are open pasture and the remainder is woodland.

Farm personnel has dropped from about 60 to 35. About 15 persons have been evacuated and another 10 are away on various missions and speaking tours.

There is no question that it is one of the better producing farms in the area. Its value is at least \$150,000.

NORMAN LONG, a minister and a seven-year resident as work coordinator, said the assets of the colony have been built up "from within" and not from outside donations.

BOYCOTT MENACES INTEGRATED FARM

Times P. 60-L
Fires, Bombings Also Imperil

Georgia Minister's Group
After 14 Peaceful Years

Jan 2-17-57
AMERICUS, Ga., Feb. 16 (P)

Koinonia Farms, a bi-racial agricultural community, is facing a desperate fight for its life after fourteen years of peaceful existence.

Its defenders regard it as an experiment dedicated to the ideals of brotherhood. Its opponents, growing sharply in numbers of late, tend to view the community as a "cancer" that should be cut out of this agriculture and livestock center in southwest Georgia.

In the last six months this communal farm of some sixty whites and Negroes has survived bombs, bullets and fires. Now an economic boycott threatens to close it.

The Rev. Clarence Jordan, a

KOINONIA FARMS-AMERICUS, GA.

white man, was co-founder in 1942 of the nonprofit, nondenominational corporation. He describes the farm as a religious community "practicing Christian brotherhood."

"Koinonia was founded after deep religious considerations of our commitment to Jesus," the Georgia-born Baptist clergyman said. "We are not concerned with integration or segregation, only the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man. It is in that sphere we find our togetherness."

Townspeople Angry

At near-by Americus the anger of some of the townspeople has reached an inflammatory peak over what is viewed as the "flaunting" of integration practices by the farm.

"The people have had it up to here," said Sheriff Fred Chappell of Sumter County, which has a population of about 25,000, half Negro. "We get reports of whites and Negroes strolling down the streets together in Americus. One report said a white girl and two Negro boys walked down the street all eating popcorn out of the same bag."

The word Koinonia derives from the Greek. It means fellowship or community, or a group holding all things in common.

It has been fired on sporadically with rifles and pistols. Its roadside retail market stand several miles from the main farm has been destroyed by two dynamite attacks.

A cross was burned a week ago before the home of a negro tenant worker. A vacant house was destroyed by fire.

The sheriff said he had investigated the incidents, but, "I don't find any clues and I don't get any cooperation from those folks."

"A lot of people ask me why I don't go out there and clean out that place," he said. "But they aren't breaking any laws and until they do there isn't much I can do."

The violence and the boycotts started after an attempt last summer to establish an integrated youth camp on the farm. An injunction by the county on the ground of health and sanitation delayed the opening of the camp. The injunction was dissolved in September when the question became a "moot" point at summer's end.

A Seminary Graduate

The Rev. Mr. Jordan is a quiet, educated man in his mid forties.

A native of near-by Talbotton, he appears to carry a deep religious conviction into his work. He is a graduate of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky.

He earned a Masters Degree in 1936, a Ph. D. in 1939. He holds a Bachelor's degree in agriculture from the University of Georgia.

He met his wife at the seminary where she was a librarian. They have four children.

The boycotts and economic sanctions, he said, are complete and effective.

"We are in serious financial trouble," he said. "We lost over \$14,000 in property in recent months to say nothing of the lost income. Our poultry flock of 4,000 hens has been reduced to 1,000 since the refusal to buy our eggs. And still we can't sell all of them."

"Our roadside market provided about half of our income . . . We lost our deep freeze equipment."

"But we haven't yet exhausted all our resources," he added.

He said townspeople would not buy from the farm and would not sell to them.

"They refused us services, they won't repair our vehicles, they refuse to do business with us in any way. . . . Our insurance policies have been canceled."

Bank Credit Stopped

"We have had a perfect record for fourteen years but now the bank has refused us," the minister said.

"Until a few months ago, it was our policy not to accept donations, but we have received small amounts from people all over the United States. They don't come near covering our losses."

"We have gone about our business quietly. We do not try to force our views on anybody. Our trouble started since the racial stir in the South has inflamed everybody."

In town, James R. Blair, publisher of The Americus Times-Recorder, summarized the feelings of many opponents of the farm.

"It's like a cancer on the community and we ought to get rid of it," he said. "We don't agree with what they are doing but we deplore the violence."

Eugene Horne, head of the Sumter County chapter of the States Rights council of Georgia, said the sentiment was "universally hostile . . ."

"When Jordan came here, he

was well accepted * * * before people learned of his sentiments."

He said the economic sanctions were "purely spontaneous."

KOINONIA FARM REJECTS OFFER

New Orleans, La. Bi-racial Group Consider

Principles at Stake
Mar. 3-1-57

AMERICUS, Ga., March 2 (P)—Koinonia Farm, a religious community of Negroes and whites, has rejected a Ku Klux Klan suggestion that it sell out "because we feel there are basic principles at stake which we cannot forsake at any cost."

Norman Long, president of the bi-racial farm, said considerable confusion had arisen about Koinonia's intentions since a 70-car motorcade of klansmen visited the farm Feb. 24 and offered to try to arrange a buyer. Long said "we should like to make it absolutely clear where we now stand and our reasons for doing so."

The farm has been the target of bombs, bullets, cross-burnings and economic boycott the past six months.

Long said "the Koinonia community is unanimously agreed that we must continue to bear witness here in Sumter County, Ga., to the way of life to which God has called us. We express this intention firmly, not in defiance or in stubborn lack of consideration for the feelings of our neighbors but because we feel there are basic principles at stake which we cannot forsake at any cost."

Long said when the klan cavalcade visited the farm three spokesmen told Koinonia representatives they were concerned about things going on" and felt that the only way violence could be ended "was by our leaving the state."

Long said the klan spokesman said they felt they could arrange a buyer so there would be no loss to Koinonia, a non-profit, non-denominational agricultural operation founded in 1942.

Long said "we told them we wanted to be open minded and were interested in discussing any suggestion for ending violence but that there was more of an economic question involved: that we had basic principles to consider."

He said the klan spokesmen said they "were not concerned with

principles." He quoted the spokesmen as saying "people living in part of the country where their beliefs were unpopular were being inconsiderate to remain there."

U.S. Church Council Backs Americus Bi-Racial Farm

WILLIAMSBURG, Va., Feb. 28—The National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. gave its full support here today to individuals and groups over the country who have been exposed to violence and ill will in their stand for racial integration.

The action of the council was in the form of a resolution unanimously adopted at the close of a two-day meeting of its 250-member general board. The board is the policy-making arm of the council which represents 30 major protestant and eastern orthodox bodies.

The resolution grew out of a report on civil and religious liberties presented to the church leaders yesterday.

The report noted that in some parts of the country both white persons and Negroes were being denied freedom of speech, assembly and petition.

It specifically called attention to the plight of a "peaceable, law-abiding, christian group on Koinonia Farms near Americus, Georgia."

Koinonia Farms is a bi-racial agricultural community that has been described as a religious group "practicing Christian brotherhood."

The report said that the community "has had its insurance canceled, its supplies cut off, its well-equipped roadside market destroyed by dynamite, and its members fired upon in their homes."

It added that Negroes and white persons "who are on the side of Christian freedom and American justice are speaking out in many places—ministers, editors, educators—and many more are working in quiet and effective ways not immediately evident."

Integrated Farm To Stay in South

AMERICUS, Ga., Mar. 2 (P)—Koinonia Farm, where Negroes and white persons work side by side in the heart of the segregated South, is determined to remain in Georgia in the face of

bombings, shootings, economic boycott and a suggestion to sell out.

Norman Long, president of the 40-member religious community,

outlined in a statement why the group unanimously decided to turn down a recent Ku Klux Klan offer to find a buyer for the farm.

The principal reason, Mr. Long said yesterday, is that "we feel there are basic principles at stake which we cannot forsake at any cost."

He said spokesmen for a 70-car Klan motorcade which visited the farm February 24 had told him, "we're not concerned with principles." He said he did not know where the Klansmen were from.

Mr. Long said, "The Koinonia community is unanimously agreed that we must continue to bear witness here in Sumter County, Ga., to the way of life to which God has called us. We express this intention firmly, not in defiance or in stubborn lack of consideration for the feelings of our neighbors..."

Koinonia was founded in 1942 as a nonprofit, nondenominational agricultural undertaking and enjoyed 14 years of good relations with neighboring Georgians until a series of shootings, bombings, a fire and cross burnings erupted against the farm in the past six months. An economic boycott by white persons in the area has also added to Koinonia's troubles.

Bi-Racial Farm Rejects Constitution Klan's Advice To Sell

AMERICUS, March 1 (P)—Koinonia Farm, a religious community of Negroes and whites, Friday rejected a Ku Klux Klan suggestion that it sell out "because we feel there are basic principles at stake which we cannot forsake at any cost."

Norman Long, president of the bi-racial farm, said considerable confusion had arisen about Koinonia's intentions since a 70-car motorcade of Klansmen visited the farm Feb. 24 and offered to try to arrange a buyer. Long said, "We should like to make it absolutely clear where we now stand and our reasons for doing so."

The farm has been the target of bombs, bullets, cross-burnings and economic boycott the past six months.

WAY OF LIFE

Long said, "The Koinonia community is unanimously agreed that we must continue to bear witness here in Sumter County, Georgia, to the way of life to which God has called us. We express this intention firmly, not in defiance or in stubborn lack of consideration for the feelings of our neighbors but because we feel there are basic principles at stake which we cannot forsake at any cost."

He said, "The current attack upon Koinonia community is an attack on the most sacred principles of American democracy. The very roots of our country's greatness lie in the struggle for the freedom of a minority group to practice its religious faith regardless of how unpopular it might be..."

"We are deeply loyal to the basic principles of American democracy and we call upon the citizens of this county and the nation to protect our freedom, not because of what we are or what we believe, but in order that the greatness for which America has stood so long might not be jeopardized."

VIOLENCE PREDICTED

Long said when the Klan cavalcade visited the farm, three spokesmen told Koinonia representatives they were concerned about "things going on" and felt that the only way violence could be ended "was by our leaving

Long said the Klan spokesmen said they felt they could arrange a buyer so there would be no loss to Koinonia, a nonprofit, nondenominational agricultural operation founded in 1942.

Long said "we told them we wanted to be open minded and were interested in discussing any suggestion for ending violence but that there was more than an economic question involved; that we had basic principles to consider."

He said the Klan spokesman replied they "are not concerned with principles." He quoted the spokesman as saying "people living in a part of the country where their beliefs are unpopular are being inconsiderate to remain there."

Long said the spokesman identified themselves as Sam Amerson, J. E. Fuller and Jim Smith. He said he did not recognize them as residents of the area. Long said the other Klansmen remained in their cars during the visit.

In his statement today, Long said, "the most grievous result of the present struggle centering around Koinonia is the fear and bitterness and hate that have arisen in the hearts of those who misunderstand and oppose us... In the spirit of Jesus Christ to whom we are committed we know that the only way to heal these injuries in the hearts of men is through patience, forgiveness and sacrificial love, even though these may need be expressed in pain and suffering."

"We say this not in self-righteousness. We, too, are sinners under God and want to take upon ourselves the responsibility for misunderstanding and ill will around us."

"It is therefore in acceptance of our responsibility as Christians and Americans and in deep concern for the people of Sumter County as well as our own souls that we express these intentions."



MEETING OF THE TWAIN: East meets West as these young farmers from India arrive here today under International Farm Youth Exchange program. Hardev Singh Gill, left, and Tripoda Sood are two of 53 young people from Far East aboard liner Constitution when it docked at Pier 84. They'll work with American farm families for six months. In August, 17 young American farmers will sail for India to complete the exchange.

Virginia Girl Off To Try Life On Farm In Brazil

Miss Doris Smith, a 20-year-old 4-H'er who has completed a number of homemaking projects, as well as helped with the chores on her parents' 100-acre farm at Mount Holly, Va., was one of 14 young people who flew to Latin America last week for a 6-month stay as International Farm Youth Exchange delegates. Miss Smith and an Oregon 4-H'er, Miss Mary Nell Neill, were



THREE OF THE 14 International Farm Youth Exchange delegates who flew to Latin America for a six month stay get advance pointers on operating a camera from L. S. Nichols, a regional leader of

the National 4-H club foundation. Left to right, Miss Janice E. Malsten, Forks, Wash.; Robert Miller, Northwood, Iowa; Nichols, and Miss Doris Smith, Mount Holly, Va.

ly and community social life, and Since the launching of this program nine years ago, 880 U. S. ing of the customs and culture. farm youths have visited families

Miss Smith holds a B. S. de. in 50 countries, and these coun- gree in elementary education tries have sent 1,016 of their from Virginia State college, and young people here.

Miss Neill has earned a similar The youths not only seek to degree at Oregon College of Edu- gain a better understanding of the ways of life of the people

The other 12 IFYE delegates they visit, but they also try to help the host families and com- munities get a better understand- ing of their countries. They do this through conversation, talks

50 COUNTRIES VISITED

before groups, and the presenta- tion of slides and other visuals.

Upon their return home, the IFYEs share their experiences with 4-H clubs, other youth groups, rural organizations, and civic clubs in an effort to further a 2-way understanding of peoples and cultures.

TALK TO 3 MILLION

As of last year, returning U. S. delegates had talked in meetings to more than 3 million, and had reached additional millions through radio, television, news- papers, and magazines.

In the United States the IFYE program is conducted by the Na- tional 4-H Club Foundation, a non-governmental educational or- ganization, and by the Coopera- tive Extension Service of the U. S. Department of Agriculture and the State Land-Grant Colleges.

However, no government funds are used to finance the exchange visits. The funds are raised through 4-H clubs, farm organi- zations, business firms, founda- tions, industries, and persons in- terested in rural youth and inter- national understanding.

Counties Urged To Aid Farmers

Defender Sat. 8-10-57 Chicago, Ill.
BATON ROUGE, La. — Under Secretary of Agriculture True D. Morse urged county agents last week to work more closely with families on small farms to help them improve their farms and homes.

He made his plea in an address before the sixth annual convention of the Negro County Agricultural Agents Association at Southern university, here.

It is the poor families and others on farms too small or with land too poor to provide satisfactory income who need help most," the Under Secretary continued.

Then he pointed out that 2,500,000, or over half the Nation's farm families, fall into this category. These, he said, receive little or no benefits from direct price supports.

As one alternative, Under Secretary Morse turned to the Rural Development Program which he said could aid them. "This is a family farm program approved widely all across America as the way for low-income farm families to achieve greater incomes. It is moving forward in the States where you are giving leadership," he told the agents.

The solution he recommended involves a dual approach: (1) more work by agents in helping families to improve their farms and homes and their food to supply, and (2) more encouragement of these families to seek off-farm jobs to supplement their income.

In discussing cotton, a crop grown by more than 75 percent of all Negro farmers, Under Secretary Morse stressed efficient production methods to help keep the cost down so cotton may compete effectively with the synthetic fibers.

TROPHY FOR SERVICE—Dr. R. G. Clark (left) president,

Southern university, presents a trophy to the Clarence J.

Broussard family of Lafayette Parish, who were honored as the outstanding farm family of

the year, at a Farmers' Honor Day Convocation, at Southern.

NEGRO 4-H CLUB AWARDS SLATED

James Picayune
Aug. 3-24-57
Each Winner to Get \$50

for Camping Trip
New Orleans
Outstanding Negro 4-H Club

members in Louisiana will be awarded prizes at the annual Better Living Contest awards program at Southern university in Scotlandville Thursday.

Winners this year are Catharine Griffin, Franklin parish; LaVonne Marie Smith, Claiborne; Katherine Mills, East Baton Rouge; Winnie C. Wiltz, St. Martin; Edward Morris, Union; Glenn Jackson, Caddo; Raymond Valentine, West Baton Rouge, and James E. Hunter, Pointe Coupee.

Each of the winners will receive a \$50 check to finance a 4-H Club camping trip.

Ralph R. Brown, county agent in Orleans and manager of the Chamber of Commerce of the New Orleans Area, will head a group of judges who will dis-

tribute the awards at 11 a. m.

at the university auditorium-gymnasium.

The contest is sponsored each year by the Chamber of Commerce and The Times-Picayune in co-operation with the agricultural extension service at LSU.

Others who will attend the ceremonies representing the chamber are I. J. Becnel, Charles A. O'Neill, Francis J. Broussard, E. W. Shaffer, J. P. Gaines and Herbert E. Spencer.

MECHANICAL PICKER ADDS FARM INCOME

Commercial Appeal
Mississippi County Grower
Provides Figures
Jan. 3-5-57

ALL COSTS ARE INCLUDED

Memphis, Tenn.
Special to The Commercial Appeal

BLYTHERVILLE, Ark., March

2.—Buying a mechanical cotton picker was part of the plans made by a North Mississippi County farmer to increase his farm income—and a study of the first year's records shows he did just that.

Farm records of Vance Dixon, one of the Agricultural Extension Service's Farm and Home Development co-operators, indicate his purchase of the picker made him about \$1,500 in 1956. A total of 148 bales of cotton was machine-picked on the Dixon farm.

Costs Are Figured

Cost of machine-picking, exclusive of field loss, was \$34.50 per bale. Overhead or fixed costs—consisting of depreciation, interest on investment at 5 per cent, taxes and insurance—was \$13 per bale. Operating costs—gas, oil, grease, spindle oil, labor and repairs—were just slightly more than \$4 per bale. Grade loss was \$17.50 per bale.

Grade loss was 3½ cents per pound of lint. This is based on a difference between 35.1 cents received for 48 bales of share-cropper cotton on the farm, all hand-picked, and 31.6 cents, the average price received for the 148 bales of machine-picked cotton.

H. H. Carter, associate county agent for farm and home development, said repairs for the first year were low on the new picker. However, he said low repair cost was offset by a relatively high depreciation cost. Depreciation for a full year was figured by the "declining balance method" and amounted to 25 per cent of the new cost, based on an eight-year life. While repairs will increase in succeeding years, depreciation figured by this method (25 per cent of the undepreciated value each year) will decrease.

Field Loss Estimated

No accurate estimate could be made of field loss. However, Mr. Carter calculated field loss could have amounted to as much as \$18.50 per bale or \$23 per acre (per acre yield was 1¼ bales). Mr. Dixon still would have "broken even" on his machine harvesting. This is based on a hand-picking cost of \$53 per bale on 34 bales of "day worked" cotton which were hand picked throughout the season.

To have sustained a field loss of \$23 per acre under the above cost situation, loss from machine-picking would have had to exceed that from hand-picking by 73 pounds of lint per acre. Mr. Dixon thinks he did a reasonably efficient job of mechanical picking and that field loss probably did not exceed \$10 per acre, \$8 per bale. All calculations were based on 500-pound bales.

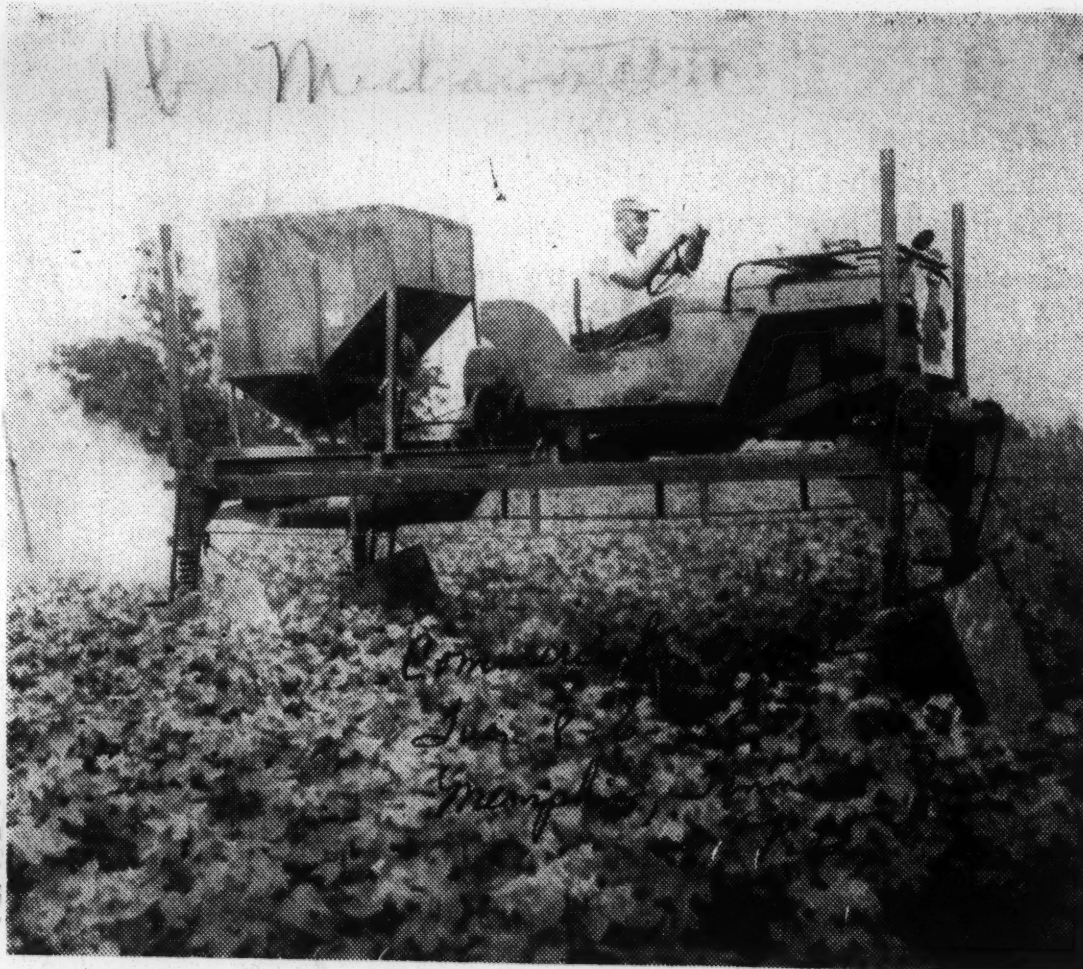
New Method To Sort Cottonseed

Washington (INS)
Agriculture department scientists have developed an experimental machine based on the slingshot principle to sort cottonseed according to quality.

The Differentiator, as the machine is called, throws the cottonseed outward like a pebble or paperwad shot out of a slingshot. The farther a seed is shot, the higher its oil and nitrogen content — characteristics of high-quality seed.

The closer to the machine the seed falls, the higher its moisture, linters, and free fatty acids content — characteristics of low-quality seed.

MECHANIZATION



INVENTOR WITH INVENTION — C. C. Harkleroad, farmer of near Batesville, Ark., tries out a crop dusting machine of

Batesville Farmer Invents Duster, Seeder Combine

Commercial Appeal
By PAUL BUCHANAN
Special to The Commercial Appeal

BATESVILLE, Ark., Aug. 5.—When an odd-looking, "long-legged" vehicle made an appearance in this area recently, people stopped and stared.

Though the machine is unusual in design, there is nothing mysterious about it, at least to its inventor, C. C. Harkleroad.

Mr. Harkleroad, who operates a farm in the Oil Trough bottoms near here, invented the machine for dusting and spraying cotton and other farm crops. It is also equipped for seeding. The patent is now pending on the new implement.

Works Like Plane

Mr. Harkleroad pointed out that his dusting apparatus works on the same principle as an airplane.

The machine can get closer to highlines and trees than a dusting plane," he said. "And you could dust crops at night with it, when the foliage is wet or damp with dew or light rain."

The machine adjusts to the spacing of rows of plants and also for spraying plants of dif-

his own invention. The machine, adjustable for both height and weight, is equipped to spread dry or liquid poison, and seed.

said. "They can be built for less, now that the first one is completed."

Mr. Harkleroad has tried out his machine on several cotton crops in the Oil Trough area, with good results.

His only regret is that he didn't get to try out his invention on his own cotton. High-water drowned out his crop this year.

Cost \$2,500

Mr. Harkleroad built the machine at a cost of \$2,500 in a welding shop at Newport.

"Of course, we had to do a lot of experimenting while building it, and that boosted the cost," he

Remember Sylvester Harris And His Mule And How They Got Saved By Pres. F. D. R.?

Nashville, Tenn.
CHICAGO—Sylvester Harris, the Mississippi farmer whose telephone call to President Franklin D. Roosevelt saved for him his farm and mule during the depression, is featured in the March EBONY. Many oldtimers remember the story; how Sylvester rode into Columbus, Miss., called FDR and appealed to him personally to save his farm. The president investigated immediately and prevented the farmer from losing his land.

Because of this direct call to White House, Sylvester and his mule, Jesse, became symbols of light and hope to a hard-pressed nation. Each year until FDR died, Sylvester sent the president a turkey at Thanksgiving.

That call was made 23 years ago and EBONY found Sylvester Harris still on the same Mississippi farm that was almost taken from him. In the meantime, however, Sylvester, now 65, worked seven years as a laborer in East St. Louis, Ill., and did not return to Columbus until a year ago. Before he migrated to the north he sold 100 acres of his 140 acre farm.

The farm is not the same as it was back in 1934 and it shows that Sylvester has shared in America's increasing prosperity. He now has a tractor, cultivators and trailers. Jesse, the mule, is dead but Sylvester has two new ones. His modest home has electricity, butane gas for cooking, a refrigerator, radio, washing machine and two TV sets.

When asked if he will eventually sell the remaining 40 acres Sylvester told EBONY, "I'll never part with it as long as I live because President Roosevelt wanted me to have it."

NEGRO FARMERS RECEIVE AWARDS

New Orleans, La.
Honored for Cotton, Corn

High Production
Jan. 2-15-57
(Special to The Times-Picayune)
JACKSON, Miss., Feb. 14.

Negro farmers who are winners in Mississippi's 1956 five-acre cotton and corn demonstration contests were honored here Thursday morning at a program in College Park auditorium.

All who were recognized received trips to Jackson from the contest sponsors. Cash prizes and certificates were also presented.

Two cotton contestants were presented certificates and other awards for averaging over two bales per acre on their demonstrations in the regular Mississippi five-acre cotton contest. They were Eldred Marshall of Washington county with 1116 pounds of lint per acre, and Bessie Brown of Winston county, with 1090 pounds of lint per acre. For South Mississippi, the third district of the state for cotton and corn contests, Kermit Harness of Pike county made the highest cotton yield of 708 pounds of lint per acre.

The following, by counties, received certificates for averaging a bale or more per acre under contest conditions:

Attala County—Curtis Whittington, Mack Alston, Clyde Kimbrough, Flemming Alston. Winston County—Henry Young, Willie Young, Zeb Glass, Ernest Yarbrough, Tom Burnside, J. W. Eichelberger, Henry Fulwiley, Robert Turner, Solon Miller, James Moore.

Pike County—Kenneth Stalling, Odell Myles, J. J. Conner, George Austin, Aisom Turner, C. P. Tate, Ed Bates.

In the five-acre corn contest, James Reed of Warren county placed first among all Negro farmers to win \$300. His yield was 144 bushels per acre.

Other corn champions, their yields and awards, were Frank Walker Jr. of Sharkey county, 143 bushels per acre, \$250; Jessie Robinson of Bolivar county, 126 bushels, \$200; Owen Mike of Bolivar county, 118 bushels, \$150; Fred Holland of Marshall county, 116.2 bushels, \$100; Huey Pennington of Washington county, 115 bushels, \$37.50; E. V. Huddleston of Newton county, 115 bushels, \$37.50; Elra McGee of Holmes county, 113 bushels, \$12.50; Charlie Carter, Pike county, 113 bushels, \$12.50.

Certificates for corn average of 75 bushels or more in the contest were presented to 55

farmers from 16 counties by the Mississippi Bankers' Association.

Sponsoring the cotton contest are 16 different kinds of business that are interested in advancing the economy of Mississippi.

NEGRO COTTON CORN DAY SET

Jan. 2-10-57
Awards to Be Presented

in Jackson, Miss.

New Orleans, La.
(Special to The Times-Picayune)
STATE COLLEGE, Miss., Feb.

The first statewide Negro Cotton and Corn Award day program will be held Thursday at College Park auditorium in Jackson, beginning at 10 a. m.

Cotton winners are Negro farmers who competed in the regular 1956 Mississippi Five-Acre Cotton contest. They will receive cash awards for their standings in the over-all contest, plus certificates for one bale, two bale, or more, per acre official averages. This contest is sponsored by 16 different kinds of businesses that are interested in advancing the economy of Mississippi.

Corn winners are in a special division of the 1956 Mississippi Five-Acre Corn contest. Nine top champions will receive awards totaling \$1100 provided by fertilizer mixers, dealers and manufacturers of Mississippi. Those with yields averaging 75 bushels per acre or more will receive certificates from the Mississippi Bankers Association.

Commissioner of Agriculture Si Corley will preside at the awards program and will award the prizes. Remarks will be made by Dr. Clay Lyle, dean and director, division of agriculture, Mississippi State college. T. M. Waller, associate extension agronomist, will review 1957 cotton and corn recommendations.



Negro cotton and corn winners honored at Jackson recently, along with two of the state's leading Negro educators, are from left, seated—James Reed of Warren County, first place corn winner, Dr. J. H. White, president, Mississippi Vocational College, Itta Bena, Frank Walker of Sharkey County, second place corn. Standing are Jessie Robinson of Bolivar County, third corn, Eldred Marshall of Washington County, first cotton, Kermit Harness of Pike County, third cotton, and W. E. Ammons, state Negro Extension agent at Jackson. Willie Young of Winston County, second place cotton winner, is not pictured. (Extension Service Photo)

*Advocate Sept. 2-23-57 P.1
Jackson, Miss.*

Remember Sylvester Harris And His Mule And How They Got Saved By Pres. F. D. R.?

Mississippi Farmer

CHICAGO—Sylvester Harris, the celebrated trips to Jackson from the Mississippi farmer whose telephone contest sponsors. Cash prizes well saved for him his farm and mule during the depression, is featured in the March EBONY. Many oldtimers remember the story; how Sylvester rode into Columbus, Miss., called FDR and appealed to him personally to save his farm. The president investigated immediately and prevented the farmer from losing his land.

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Pennington of Washington county, 115 bushels, \$37.50; E. V. Huddleston of Newton county, 115 bushels, \$37.50; Elma McGee of Holmes county, 113 bushels, \$12.50; Charlie Carter, Pike county, 113 bushels, \$12.50.

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*Advocate Feb. 23-57 P.1
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Hinds Negro Farmers Hold Hog Study

Friday at the Oakley Training School more than 500 farmers and 4-H Club members came together and devoted the entire day to study of Ways and means by which they can improve hog production. E. G. Morrison, director Brown Loam Experiment Station, led the group discussion on "How to Feed and Breed Your Hogs Properly." Dr. J. W. Vinson, one of the local veterinarians in Hinds County led the group discussion on "How to Control Diseases and Parasites." He stated to the Group that if the farmers would practice a little better job in Swine Sanitation, this would do much in helping to ward off a lot of common diseases with which farmers are annoyed.

W. E. Ammons, State Extension Leader, Negro Men's Work, emphasized to the Group that one of the mistakes that farmers make is not to plan adequate pasture for their hogs.

Chester Owens, Negro County agent for Hinds County, emphasized to the group that unless the day's study is put into practice, this time is lost.

J. E. Aldrich, Hinds County Superintendent of Education brought the group up to date on the plans as to what is in store for the Educational Program of the county. He stated that the consolidation plans for the County calls for 7 Negro Schools. He made mention of 7 pieces of land having been bought already for the purpose of building and expanding the Schools in the County.

8 Counties Named For Disaster Aid

Mississippi Farm Bureau officials and legislative leaders today renewed their requests that the entire state be declared a disaster area because of crop losses due to tornadoes, windstorms and other quirks of the weather.

The Agriculture Department yesterday designated eight counties as an area where the Farmers Home Administration may make emergency loans to farmers who have suffered reversals in crop planning.

Mississippi Commissioner of Agriculture SiCorley has estimated adverse whether has reduced the state's crop by 100 million dollars since Sept.

The counties comprising the area designated by the Agriculture Department were Adams, Attala, Carroll, Holmes, Jefferson, Lee, Monroe and Yazoo.

Sen. Eastland and Rep. Abernethy, Mississippi Democrats, said the department indicated to them that other counties will be similarly designated in the near future.

Eastland said at least 50 counties would be declared eligible for the emergency loans while Abernethy said the department advised him it realizes conditions are serious over much of the state.

Eastland also said the Staple Cotton Assn., which represents cotton growers in 20 counties of the Mississippi Delta, has estimated the cotton loss in the Delta area at 60 million dollars.

Sen. John Stennis (D-Miss) said he was "gratified" at the department's action on the eight counties and said he "hopes the department will follow through" in putting relief plans into effect as soon as possible.

The Farm Bureau Federation also adopted a resolution asking the department of agriculture to set up another classification to qualify low grade cotton for emergency loans. Some cotton now being harvested is not eligible for the loan under present grading standards.

Other amendments adopted included:

Passage in 1958 of a farmer-choice program to "prevent a further deterioration of the quality cotton program."

Permanent cotton export program based upon ample supplies of market desirable cotton at all times, more competitive prices in the domestic market through the support program, and increased acreage.

Use of surpluses in lieu of cash in foreign aid.

Opposition to the 3 per cent transportation tax on farm products to the first processor.



MISSISSIPPI'S LEADING Negro crops producers for 1957, who were honored December 3, in Jackson, include (seated, from the left) five-acre corn demonstration winners, Robert Wright of Pike County, first with 160.64 bushels per acre, Pearl W. Cook of Pike County, second with 156.18 bushels, Elra Magee of Holmes County, high in the Delta with 156 bushels, and Jack Keller of Bolivar County, second in the Delta with 151.5 bushels. Standing are (from the left) Negro County Agent C. J. Johnson of Rolling Fork, who received the top cotton award for C. H. Hudson of his county, whom he assisted; Alcus Hartwell of Pike County, district cotton winner, and W. E. Ammons of Jackson, leader, Negro men's work, Mississippi Agricultural Extension Service. (Extension Service Photo)

1b 1957

ADVANTAGES IN PROSPERITY OUTLINED TO NEGROES

Durham Speaks To Group At

Marshall County Event

1957 ENROLLMENT URGED

Special To The Commercial Appeal

HOLLY SPRINGS, Miss., Feb.

22.—"It's not hard to win a cash prize in The Commercial Appeal's Plant To Prosper Contest. Any farm family that will do its best with what it has can be a prize winner."

This declaration was voiced here Friday by Walter Durham, contest director, in a talk before the eighth annual Marshall County Negro farmers and homemakers conference at Baptist Industrial College.

The speaker, a guest of the conference each year since its start, was presented by Dr. B. M. McIntosh of Rust College. Dr. Prosper as "the greatest inspirational program of the age for farm families."

Marshall County Leads

Reporting that Marshall County has produced more state winners in the Negro Division of Plant To Prosper than any other in the Mid-South, Mr. Durham asked for a "record enrollment" in 1957 because the contest is more important to farmers this year than ever before.

"Because of the cost-price squeeze in which farmers are caught, efficiency in farming and homemaking is now essential," Durham said. "Efficiency in production is the keynote of Plant To Prosper."

Prizes in the Negro Division this year will total \$1,960, Mr. Durham said. State prizes will be \$50 for first, \$37.50 for second, \$32.50 for third and \$25 for fourth to both landowners and tenants. There will be a state prize of \$25 for home improvement and a \$100 home improvement sweepstakes award.

Top Prizes Listed

The most outstanding Negro landowner farmer of the four-state area—Mississippi, Arkansas, Tennessee and Missouri—will receive \$350, with a \$250

prize going to the top tenant family.

The all-day meeting which included a ham and egg show, was sponsored by the agricultural agencies of the county, with Lessye Lee Davis, Negro home demonstration agent, in charge.

Others on the program included County Agent Leo C. Hutchinson, Hubert T. Turner, assistant county agent, Mrs. Ruth S. Hawkins, home demonstration agent, G. E. Gray, Negro assistant 4-H Club agent, Levi Bell, L. E. Smith, Rev. Clayborn Collins, Rev. Samuel Phillips, James Robinson and Prof. S. Nero.

Ham Show Winners

Winners in the hame show were Josie Burton of Echols, first; Clifton Totton of Harris, second, and Alonzo Jones Jr., third.

Showing winning white eggs were Emma L. Totton of Harris, first; Earlease White of Potts Camp, second, and Roxie Hardin of Bell Grove, third. Brown egg winners were Dew Drop Eason, Angie Dockery and Nancy Eason, all of St. Joseph, first, second and third, respectively. Levi Bell won the attendance prize for having the most guests present.

State Farmers Winners In 1956 Cotton And Corn Production Honored Here This Week

Dr. J. H. White Principal Speaker

State College, Miss. — The first state-wide Negro Cotton and Corn Award Day program was held Thursday, February 14 in College Park Auditorium, Jackson, beginning at 10 a.m.

The cotton winners were Negro farmers who competed in the regular 1956 Mississippi Five-Acre Cotton Contest. They received cash awards for their standings in the

over-all contest, plus certificates for one bale, two bale, or more, per acre official averages. This contest is sponsored by 16 different kinds of businesses that are interested in advancing the economy of Mississippi.

The corn winners are in a special division of the 1956 Mississippi Five-Acre Corn Contest. The nine top champions received awards totaling \$1,100 provided by the fertilizer mixers, dealers and manufacturers of Mississippi. Those with yields averaging 75 bushels per acre or more received certificates from the Mississippi Bankers Association.

Travel to Jackson and a meal for the winners and the Negro county agents who assisted them was provided by the sponsors.

Commissioner of Agriculture Si Corley presided at the awards program and awarded the prizes. Remarks by Dr. Clay Lyle, dean and director, Division of Agriculture, Mississippi State College. T. M. Waller, associate Extension agronomist, reviewed the 1957 cotton and corn recommendations.

A representative of the Mississippi Bankers Association awarded the corn certificates.

Dr. J. H. White, president, Mississippi Vocational College, Itta Bena, made the address.

The invocation by A. J. Warfield, Negro county agent, Sardis. The top champions told how they made their high yields.

All who were recognized received trips to Jackson from the contest sponsors. Cash prizes and certificates were also presented.

Two cotton contestants were presented certificates and other awards for averaging over two bales per acre on their demonstrations in the regular Mississippi Five-Acre Cotton Contest. They were Eldred Marshall of Washington County with 1,116 pounds of lint per acre; and Bessie Brown of Winston County, with 1,090 pounds of lint per acre. For South Mississippi, the third district of the state for cotton and corn contests, Kermit Harness of Pike County made the highest cotton yield of 706 pounds of lint per acre.

The following, by counties, received certificates for averaging a bale or more per acre under con-

MISSISSIPPI

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Winston County — Henry Young, Willie Young, Zeb Glass, Ernest Yarbrough, Tom Burnside, J. W. Eichelberger, Henry Fulwiley, Robert Turner, Solon Miller, James Moore.

Pike County — Kenneth Stalling, Odell Myles, J. J. Carter, George Austin, Aisom Turner, C. P. Tate, Ed Bates.

In the Five-Acre Corn Contest, James Reed of Warren County placed first among all Negro farmers to win \$300. His yield was 144 bushels per acre.

Other corn champions, their yields and awards, were Frank Walker, Jr. of Sharkey County, 143 bushels per acre, \$250; Jessie Robinson of Bolivar County, 126 bushels, \$200; Owen Mike of Bolivar County, 118 bushels, \$150; Fred Holland of Marshall County, 116.2 bushels, \$100; Huey Pennington of Washington County, 115 bushels, \$37.50; E. V. Huddleston of Newton County, 115 bushels, \$37.50; Elra McGee of Holmes County, 113 bushels, \$12.50; Charlie Carter, Pike County, 113 bushels, \$12.50.

Certificates for corn average of 75 bushels or more in the contest were presented to 55 farmers from 16 counties by the Mississippi Bankers Association.

Sponsoring the cotton contest are 16 different kinds of businesses that are interested in advancing the economy of Mississippi. The corn contest sponsors were the fertilizer mixers, dealers and manufacturers of Mississippi.

NEGRO FARMER HAS MADISON'S INITIAL BALE

CANTON, Miss. (Special) — Alf Sutton, Sr., a Negro farmer on the Mack Ragdale place south of Canton produced Madison County's first bale of cotton which brought 75 cents a pound.

Jim Conner and Tom Riddell, Jr., of the new Champion Chemical Co. made the successful bid of 75 cents a pound which is more than double the loan rate last of 33.21.

SAY PATIENCE NEEDED TO SOLVE FUTURE DELTA NEGRO PROBLEM

Stoneville, Miss., Aug. 12—Patience, new farming methods, and continuance of 50 years of good will between the races will solve future Negro problems of the Delta, not the people who "peddle hate for money," 1,300 Negro farmers who came to the 17th annual Negro Delta Field Day in 175 autos and trucks, heard Leroy B. Percy, plantation owner, say Wednesday.

The affair is sponsored annually at the Delta Branch Experiment station by extension forces and Washington county Negro agents and serves to acquaint the farmers with modern farming methods and latest developments in crop and soil management.

D. W. Wilburn, Natchez Junior College dean told the crowd those "sluggards" who complain there is nothing to do because the land is in the soil bank are ignoring the bright future of this area but "those who plow a straight furrow through the tumult we are now in will find yourself living in the happiest and most prosperous place in the world."

Farmer Exodus In Mississippi Stated To Rise

Special to The Commercial Appeal

JACKSON, Miss., Jan. 13.—In 15 years, from 1940 to 1955, Mississippi lost 453,000 of its farm population, and by 1962 another 200,000 will leave the farms. This is the main reason why Mississippi's total population has shown a loss while most states are reporting population gains, the Mississippi Farm Bureau Federation reported Sunday.

Today 43.5 per cent of the state's 2.2 million population are living on farms, which comprise over two-thirds of the total land area of the state. There are now 215,915 farms and by 1962 projected estimates are for only 180,000 farms in the state.

This decrease in the number of farms is accompanied by an increase in the size of farms remaining, with the average size of farms increasing from 66 acres in 1940 to 96 acres in 1955. Mechanization is the main factor which has brought this about.

Average gross cash income from marketings in 1955 was \$2,586 per farm as compared with \$1,331 in 1944, but there were 75,177 fewer farmers in 1955 to share in the total income than there were in 1944.

Individual gross cash farm income was generally less than \$2,500 per farm in 1955, the report of the Mississippi Farm Income Planning Committee shows. Seventy-one per cent of all commercial farms and 80 per cent of all farms were in this class. Only 3.2 per cent of commercial farms in 1955 had \$10,000 or more income.

Cotton continues to be the chief money crop, furnishing 60 to 65 per cent of the marketing sales. Soybeans rank second among the row crops, but contribute only 2 per cent of the total cash income.

Livestock and livestock products in the five year period of 1950-54 furnished 28 per cent of the total cash receipts.

MANY MISSISSIPPIANS FLOCK TO SOIL BANK

Man. 2-4-57
Most Of State, Except Delta,

Sold On Program
Memphis, Tenn.
FIXED LIMIT IN COUNTIES

P. 23
By The Associated Press

JACKSON, Miss., Feb. 3.—The soil bank is already a sell-out in much of Mississippi.

Cotton farmers formed long lines last week when the first chance came to sign up for the \$25,977,500 — second only to Texas' \$61,055,300 — for soil bank program strongly opposed by many Mississippi congressmen.

Some Stay Up All Night
In several counties, farmers stayed up all night to keep their places in line. It's a "first-come, first-served" program.

With a fixed money limit in each county, some late comers won't get in.

"Most of the counties outside the Delta will be sold out," said C. W. Sullivan, state administrator for the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Committee.

The first formal reports from county ASC Committees aren't in. On the basis of word by telephone and information brought in by field workers, Mr. Sullivan gave this picture.

1. Less than total signups expected in the cotton-rich, intensely cultivated Delta where plantations are larger. Pressure for increased acreage allotment has been greatest in the Delta.

2. An almost complete sell-out outside the Delta except for Hinds, Madison, Lee, Union, Prentiss and Monroe Counties which may not use all their soil bank allocation.

Percentage Allotment

Counties are permitted to commit for the soil bank up to 22.8 per cent of their acreage allotment under the price support program. They are then bound to keep the soil bank acreage out of production. The program's purpose is to reduce surpluses and conserve land.

Representative Tom Abernethy (D., Miss.) told the Mississippi Farm Bureau Federation convention last year the soil bank is "an utter waste of public

funds . . . a dole, a handout."

He asked the convention to go on record against it. Instead, the delegates approved the soil bank in principle though calling for some changes.

Senator John Stennis (D., Miss.)—addressing farmers last fall in Coahoma County where the soil payoff is highest in the state—urged that cotton farmers "go slow" in signing up.

The senator warned against "the rising tide of criticism" as "the public is told in dramatic headlines that these huge sums are paid by the Government for land that is not used."

Mississippi has been allotted \$25,977,500 — second only to Texas' \$61,055,300—for soil bank payments. The per-acre payment to the individual farmer is determined on the basis of past production. The more productive farmers in Coahoma County will get more than \$85 an acre.

NEGRO FARM AWARDS DUE

Commercial
State College Gives Corn,
Cotton Prizes

STATE COLLEGE, Miss., Feb. 8.—The first statewide Negro Cotton and Corn Award Day program will be held Feb. 14 in College Park Auditorium, Jackson, beginning at 10 a.m.

The cotton winners are Negro farmers who competed in the regular 1956 Mississippi Five-Acre Cotton Contest. They will receive cash awards for their

standings in the over-all contest, plus certificates for one bale, two bales, or more, per acre official averages. This contest is sponsored by 16 different kinds of businesses that are interested in

advancing the economy of Mississippi.

The corn winners are in a special division of the 1956 Mississippi Five-Acre Corn Contest. The nine top champions will receive awards totaling \$1,100 provided by the fertilizer mixers, dealers and manufacturers of Mississippi. Those with yields averaging 75 bushels per acre or more will receive certificates from the Mississippi Bankers Association.

Farmer, Whose Call To FDR Saved Mule, Featured In Mag.

CHICAGO. — (AP) —

Sylvester Harris, the Mississippi farmer whose telephone call to President Franklin D. Roosevelt saved for him his farm and mule during the depression, is featured in the March *Ebony* magazine.

Many old-timers remember the story: how Sylvester rode into Columbus, Miss., called FDR and appealed to him personally to save his farm. The President investigated immediately and prevented the farmer from losing his land.

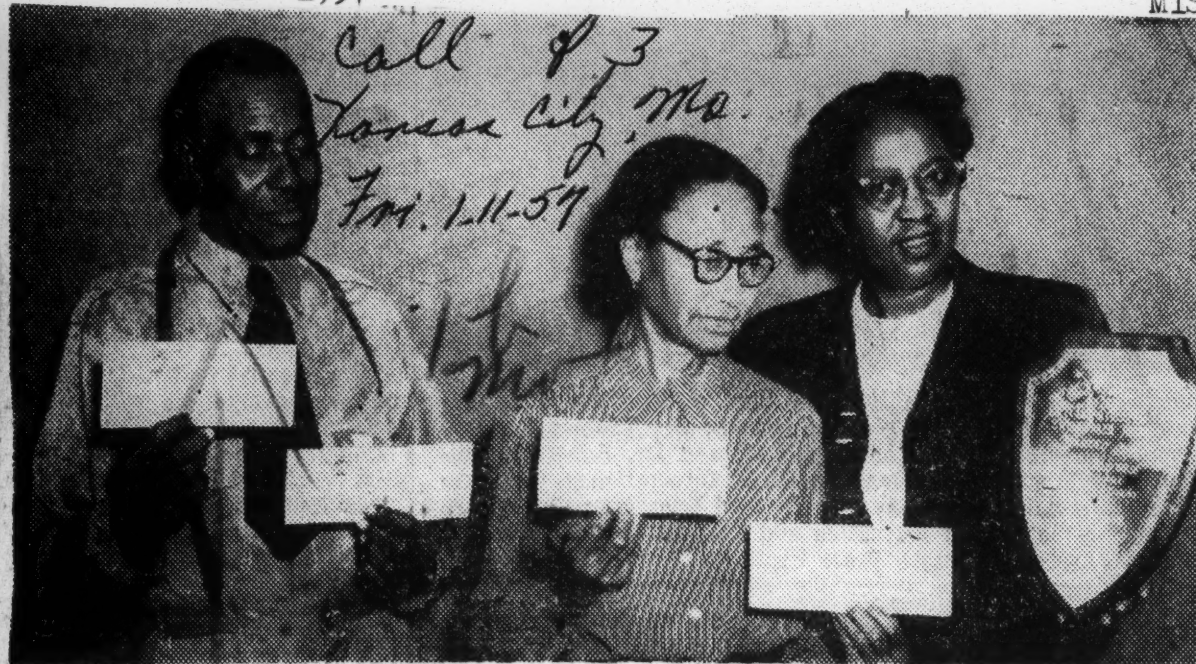
Because of this direct call to the White House, Sylvester and his mule, Jesse, became symbols of light and hope to a hard-pressed nation. Each year until FDR died, Sylvester sent the President a turkey at Thanksgiving.

The farm is not the same as it was back in 1934 and it shows that Sylvester has prospered. He now has a tractor, cultivators and trailers. Jesse, the mule, is dead but Sylvester has two new ones. His modest home has electricity, butane gas for cooking, a refrigerator, radio, washing machine and two TV sets.

When asked if he will eventually sell the remaining 40 acres Sylvester told "Ebony," "I'll never part with it as long as I live because President Roosevelt wanted me to have it."

1b 1957

MISSOURI



'PLANT TO PROSPER' SWEEPSTAKES CHAMPIONS. — Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Parr of Route 3 Steele, (Dunklin county) Mo., were chosen as winners of the grand sweepstakes in the "Plant to Prosper" contest sponsored by the Memphis Chamber of Commerce and the Memphis Com-

mercial Appeal. Shown with them is Mrs. Ella Stackhouse, home demonstration agent for Dunklin and Pemiscot counties, winner of the Sweepstakes trophy for producing the landowner champions. The Parrs hold checks valued at \$425.

Missouri Farm Couple Wins \$350 Prize In 'Plant To Prosper' Contest

STEELE, Mo. — Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Parr, sweepstakes champions of Route 3, Dunklin county Mo., will be honored Wednesday night, Jan 9, at 7:30 o'clock by the Pemiscot-Dunklin Home Economics Extension and 4-H County Councils in the Central high school gymnasium at Hayti.

For their outstanding record in the "Plant To Prosper" contest the Parrs were chosen to receive the \$350 grand prize money given by the Memphis Chamber of Commerce and the Commercial Appeal.

They were also first place state winners in the landowner division, receiving a sum of \$50, and first place state winners in the Home Improvement division receiving a sum of \$25.

After 37 years of toil, handicaps and struggle, Mr. and Mrs. Parr have at last realized "our one big aim in life—to own our farm and build a comfortable home." They are now proud owners of a 100 acre debt-free, Delta rich farm for which they refused an offer of \$30,000. And they have just moved into their new home valued at \$15,000.

The Parrs were married in 1918, and for 15 years they worked as

sharecroppers in Arkansas. By 1934, they had saved enough to buy 40 acres of Missouri swamp land from the government. Their remaining few dollars went to buy a mule, planting seed and to build a one-room cabin with lumber cut from the farm.

Buy 20 More Acres

Their first crop, made with borrowed equipment, netted them \$75. They used half that amount to buy another 20 acres. Their third year on the farm was a rough one for the Parrs. High water destroyed their crops and they were unable to borrow money for operating expenses. Their land was so poorly drained no one would risk lending money on a crop.

After having farmed the 60 acres for 13 years, the Parrs decided in 1947 to buy another 40 acres to give them a family size farm. They paid for it out of their earnings. "When we bought this 40 acres we went to our county agent and asked him to help us work out a plan." "He recommended soil testing, using fertilizer, crop rotation, small grain for pasture and an improved drainage system. We have carried out these recommendations and our farming operation has paid off."

Of their 100 acres, the Parrs

have 88 acres in cultivation. "We farm with modern equipment," Mr. Parr reported. "My wife and I raise practically all of our food except staples. Besides our two milk cows and hogs for home use and for market, we have 90 laying hens and a small orchard. We have our garden soil tested and we raise a good garden which supplies us with plenty of fresh vegetables to eat and to can and freeze."

From her experience in Home Demonstration club work with her extension agent, Mrs. Ella Stackhouse, Mrs. Parr has learned to sew well. She sews quite a bit for neighbors to earn extra money. She has bought an electric sewing machine, dress form and other equipment to aid her in her sewing.

Have Two Children

The Parrs have two adopted children and four grandchildren. They are leaders in their community. She is president of the community Home Demonstration club, vice-president of the Pemiscot-Dunklin Home Demonstration Extension Council, 4-H clothing project leader, primary Sunday school teacher, a member of the mother's board at the church, chairman of Mission circle No. 4, and a member of the Parent-Teachers association. Mr. Parr is church clerk,

member of the Board of Deacons, a school trustee and a member of the PTA.

The Parrs say, "The 'Plant To Prosper' contest has meant more than just a contest to us. It has been a means of helping us reach our goal. By following the recommendations, it has helped us gain prestige and respect in the community among both colored and white families, and among the people and firms with whom we do business."

Trophies were presented to the agricultural workers who produced the landowner and tenant champions. Receiving the landowner trophy was Mrs. Ella Stackhouse, Negro home demonstration agent for Dunklin and Pemiscot counties, Missouri.

Among the other families to receive recognition are the Samie Clintons, of Route 2, Bragg City, Mo., (Pemiscot county) who won second place in the landowner division of the "Plant To Prosper" contest. They received a sum of \$37.50.

The Roy Treadwells received a place in the landowner division and the Alex Burden family won third place in the tenant division receiving the sum of \$32.50. Recognition and awards will also be given to leaders and 4-H'ers.

1b 1957

NATIONAL HOME DEMONSTRATION AGENTS ASSOCIATION

NEGRO H-D AGENTS VOTE

Commercial
Mississippian Named Head
Of 3 State Group *21*

JACKSON, Miss., May 2.—Lillian Palmer of Natchez has been elected first president of the Negro National Home Demonstration Agents Association organized here by agricultural agents of three states.

Other officers, all members of the Agricultural Extension Service in their states, include:

Bernice McKay of Athens, Texas, first vice president; Gertrude Williams of El Dorado, Ark., second vice president; Gertrude Hollard of Cleveland, third vice president; Carreather Banks of Forest City, Ark., secretary, and Juanita Williams of Fort Worth, Texas, corresponding secretary.

Alice Little of Tupelo, treasurer; Iola Rhone of Texarkana, Ark., parliamentarian; Jennie Wright of Lake Village, Ark., chaplain; Weather Cox of Canton, historian, and Vera Dial of Houston, Texas, reporter.



LEADERSHIP MEETING — State officers of the North Carolina Federation of the New Farmers of America come to A&T college, Greensboro, N. C., to "bone up" on

techniques in leadership. W. T. Johnson, left, assistant supervisor of Vocational Agriculture, points out some interesting scenes to the youngsters. They are from left to

right, front row: Leonard Peety, Wilkesboro, second vice-president; Jimmy Kilgore, Boiling Springs, secretary and Herbert Best, LaGrange, reporter. Those on the back row

are Theodore Coggins, Armour, treasurer; William Lawrence, Chadbourn, vice president and Willie Riddick, Winton, president.

Quest For Full Citizenship Won't Halt, Dobbs Declares Young Farmers In Five Day Meeting

The American Negro will continue to press for full recognition in all phases of life in this country, said John Wesley Dobbs when he was guest speaker at a dinner given Wednesday evening by executive officers of the New Farmers of America at the Butler Street YMCA.

"Those who would deny you first class citizenship cannot prevent the move toward full citizenship. All they can hope to do is to discourage, embarrass you or attempt to delay you in the struggle," continued Dobbs, head of a state Masonic Organization, and national vice president of the NAACP.

NEW FARMERS

The New Farmers of America were holding a five-day Leadership Training Conference for the national student officers, which represent a 45,000 membership throughout 17 Southern states. The conference is scheduled to end Friday.

Dobbs said it will take a lot of money to continue the fight. He also told how the Negro has become aware of the power of the ballot. He went on to praise the young men for "distinguishing yourselves in your work."

He was introduced by Marvin Rountree, of Elm City, N. C., national president of the student division of the New Farmers, and toastmaster at the dinner.

MADE REMARKS

Welcoming remarks were made by James Donaldson of Madison, Fla., third vice president.

Also making remarks was Warren R. Cochran, executive secretary of the YMCA.

The National Adult Officers who were supervising the conference were:

J. R. Powell of Prairie View, Texas, executive secretary; G. W. Conoly of Tallahassee, Fla., advisor; and W. T. Johnson of Greensboro, N. C., executive treasurer.

Dr. W. T. Spanton, chief of agriculture and W. N. Elam, program planning specialist, are both connected with the Educational service in the U. S. Office of Education in Washington, D. C., national headquarters for the New Farmers of America.

Daily World Wed. 1-23-37 P.1
**Young Farmers In
Five Day Meeting**

National Student Officers of the New Farmers of America were being instructed in the duties and responsibilities of their office, during a five-day Leadership Training Conference, which started Monday, at the Butler Street YMCA.

Plans were also being made for the seven youthful officers to visit the various 17 southern states to speak to the state association of the New Farmers of America, which represents approximately 45,000 members. Each public school in the southern states have a chapter and the various chapters within a state, compose the state association.

During the speaking tour, the student officers will tell about the achievement and future plans of the national organization.

Preliminary plans for the annual convention, which is scheduled to start in Atlanta late in September, were also discussed during this conference. These suggestive plans will be presented to the Regional Conference of Teachers-Leaders and Supervisors, which is scheduled to convene in San Antonio, Tex., in February.

Addressing the conference Monday were T. G. Walters, state supervisor of the vocational agricultural education for the state of Georgia; and McKinley Wilson, supervisor for the state's Negro division.

Activities of the National Student Officers will also be submitted to the National Adult Officers which will make the final assignments before the student officers start their speaking tour.

The final training conference for the national convention will be reviewed and selection of the various national award winners among New Farmers of America throughout the 17 states will be made during the Augusta conference.

The National Student Officers are:

Marvin Rountree of Elm City, N.

bulk of the decline, accounting for 82 percent of the drop from a year ago, and 67 percent of the decrease from November's level of employment.

Nashville, Tenn.
Work being done in the South during the month included the cultivation and harvest of vegetables in Florida and Lower Texas, seeding tobacco beds in Georgia and the Carolinas, stripping tobacco in the Burley area, and harvesting citrus in Florida.

Wages rates without room or board ranged from \$9.70 per day in Connecticut to \$3.35 in South Carolina. Average for the whole country was \$5.80.

This Successful Colored Farmer Says He Made It By Cutting Corners

Jackson, Miss.
"We made it by cutting corners," says Engene Howard, a successful colored farmer of New Zion, S. C., who built his own modern home himself, and who never misses a chance to save a dollar by making things instead of buying them.

His most recent savings totaling \$220 were made last year when he built four self-feeders for the 70 to 90 head of hogs he raises every year. Material for each feeder cost him only \$30, compared with \$85 a piece for store-bought feeders.

And instead of buying his supplemental swine feed already mixed at a cost of \$5.50 per 100 pounds, Mr. Howard says he buys the fish meal and other components and mixes them himself with his own corn which he has ground in town. He estimates that this saves about \$4 per 100 pounds on his supplement. One of his next goals is to buy a feed grinder.

Two years ago when the house needed painting and Mr. Howard and the boys were busy in the field, Mrs. Howard and two of the girls got out the ladders and did the job themselves, painting their attractive seven-room home inside and outside.

And, of course, the Howards seldom think of going to the grocery store, except to sell something out of their orchard and half-acre garden. They grow these mainly, however, to meet their home needs. One year Mrs. Howard put up 1,100 jars of fruits, vegetables, and meats for the family.

"It has been cutting corners such as these," says Mr. Howard, "that has enabled me and my wife to rear 11 children, pay for our 98-acre farm, and buy a tractor and a combine and two milk cows."

Mr. and Mrs. Howard started

out as sharecroppers in the late 1920's. Within a year, they were cash renters; and by 1939, they had saved up enough to make the down-payment on a farm of their own.

The next year, however, when it seemed as though they might slip back down to tenant farming, they had their farm refinanced through the Farmers Home Administration of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. And although they had 40 years in which to repay the Government, they paid it out in six, and then set about building a modern house with a bathroom and hot and cold running water. Mr. Howard and the boys did just about all the work themselves.

"We owe a large part of our success to County Agent William Thompson who retired last year, and to the Farmers Home supervisor," says Mr. Howard. "They showed us how to plan and how to cut costs, and they encouraged us to grow something besides cotton and tobacco."

Farm Employment In December Down 277,000 From Year Ago

St. Louis P.1
Farm employment continued its long-time decline last month as the work force decreased by 277,000 from the same period a year ago, the U. S. Department of Agriculture estimates.

Jan. 1-25-37
Survey report for the week of December 23-29 shows that 5,811,000 persons were at work on farms, compared with 6,088,000 a year ago, and 7,392,000 last November.

Drop in number of persons employed on farms in the South accounted for a million or two-thirds of the decline between November and December, and 172,000, or 62 percent of the decrease from a year ago. Negro workers make up a sizeable part of the farm labor force in the Southern region.

Family workers, perhaps tenants and sharecroppers, make up the



Journal + Guide NFA National Officers Group

Sat. 2-9-57
National officers of the New Farmers of America, Inc., are shown during the recent session at Butler Street YMCA, Atlanta, Ga., where they attended the annual Leadership Conference.

Norfolk, Va. P. 13
Seated, left to right: Robert Hillard, secretary; Hardwood, La.; Marvin Rountree, president, Elm City, N. C.; and J. R. Powell, executive secretary, Prairie View A. and M. College, Prairie View, Tex.

Standing, left to right: G. W. Conoly, advisor, Florida A. and M. University, Tallahassee, Fla.; James Donaldson, third vice-president, Madison, Fla.; William P. Johnson Jr., reporter, Conway, S. C.; Lewis Gibson, vice-president, Marvell, Ark.; Paul Hull, second vice-president, Salisbury, Md.; Calvin McCarroll, treasurer, Foundsall, Ala.; W. T. Johnson, executive treasurer, A. and T. College, Greensboro, N. C.

New Farmers of America Week Set

Atlanta, Ga. Apr. 1-7
Apr. 3-23-57

GREENEBORO, N. C. The national president of the New Farmers of America has proclaimed April 1-7, as National NFA Week. Marvin Rountree, Elm City, N. C., a freshman student in Agricultural Engineering at A & T College issued the announcement early this

week. Notice was also given that Friday, April 5 has been set aside as National NFA Day.

Young Rountree, who was elected to the high post last summer, following graduation from high school, stated that the New Farmers of America an organization for boys studying Vocational Agriculture in many of the public schools, affords its members opportunities for fellowship training essential to wholesome and productive living, especially in rural areas.

Daily World
He stated further that the organization boasts of a membership of more than 45,000 farm youths in 16-southern states. "These

young people," he said, "will take time out of their busy schedules to pay tribute to the late Dr. Booker T. Washington, regarded by many as one of the greatest proponents of Vocational Agriculture for youth." He stated that many of the principles and ideals of the NFA have been taken from the life of Washington.

New Farmers Convene At Tennessee State; Elect James Tatum As President

MABEL B. CROOKS

Some 250 New Farmers of America held their 27th Annual Convention at Tennessee State University last week and elected James Tatum of Mt. Pisgah High School student, Cardova, president.

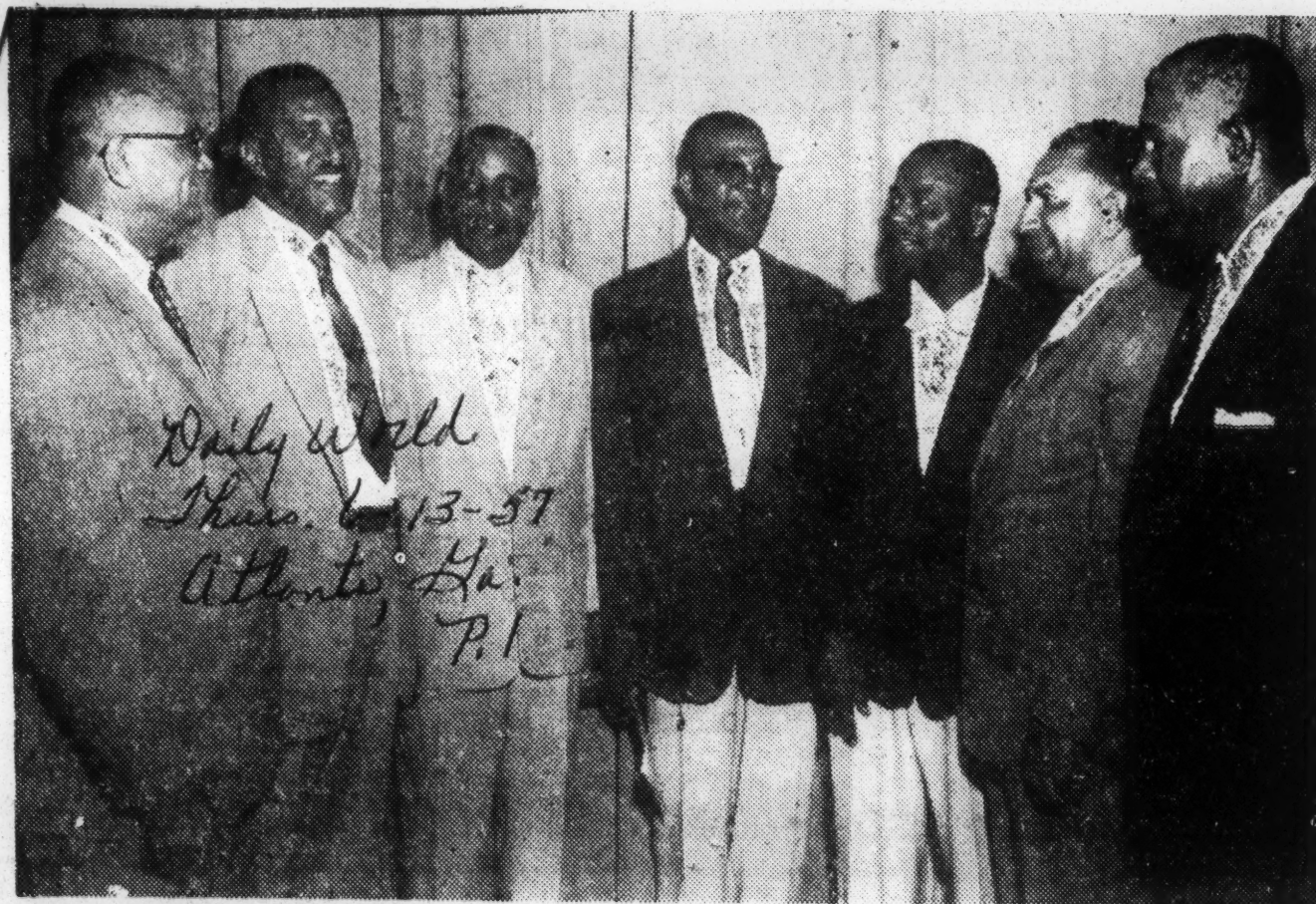
These Tennessee high school lads coming from all sections of the state practiced parliamentary procedure, judged farm animals, vied in talent (speaking and singing) contests, exhibited their general skills in farming, heard inspiring speeches and reports, and thoroughly enjoyed three days of companionship with students of like interests.

The convention was directed by Dr. W. A. Flowers, NFA state advisor; assisted by David Hamilton, itinerant teacher trainer. Both are Tennessee State faculty members.

John McDonald, farm director of WSM-WSM-TV, made the principle address. Others who spoke were Melvin Wright, president NFA collegiate chapter at Tennessee State; and President W. S. Davis, who brought greetings. Commissioner of Agriculture Buford Ellington; J. W. Carney, State Supervisor of Vocational Agriculture; and Dr. Davis were cited for their outstanding contributions to rural youth and adults in Tennessee. Dr. Flowers made the presentation. James Lemon vocational agriculture teacher at West End High School, Fayetteville, presented Dr. Flowers with a service key. This key, a gift from chapter advisers in the state, was given in recognition of Dr. Flowers' painstaking effort in directing NFA work in Tennessee.

Mt. Pisgah High School's NFA chapter at Cardova was sweepstake winner, taking the first leg of a huge trophy. James Tatum is chapter president; advisers are J. S. McKune and Vernon L. Jones.

New NFA officers elected other than Tatum, the president, are: Alfred Smith and Mitchell Birdsong of Bridgeforth High School, Pulaski, first and second vice presidents respectively; Hurley Taylor, Webb High, McKenzie, third vice president; John A. Reed, Barrett's Chapel, Arlington, secretary; Jimmy Bell and James Bryant, Webb High, McKenzie, treasurer and parliamentarian respectively; and George Bledsoe, Union High, Galatin, reporter.



MODERN FARMERS (HONORARY) — Several prominent North Carolina citizens were honored last week by the New Farmers of America, holding its annual State convention at A&T College. The honorees, awarded honorary Modern Farmer degrees included from left to right: S. D. Williams, president of Elizabeth City State Teachers College, Elizabeth City; Dr. W. E. Reed, dean, School of Agriculture, A&T College; L. R. Johnson,

Johnston County farm agent, Smithfield; J. C. McLaughlin, Greensboro, professor of Rural Sociology at A&T College; W. A. Goldsborough, Vocational Agriculture teacher at the Dudley High School, Greensboro; Dr. Rudolph Jones, president of Fayetteville State Teachers College, Fayetteville and William F. Draughn, Sr., a Whitakers farmer.

*Daily World
Thurs. 6-13-57
Atlanta, Ga.
P.I.*

High Government Official

The convention, which runs from October 1 through October 4, is expected to draw 1200 New Farmers and their advisors throughout the nation.

Other headline speakers scheduled for the 4-day session include Dr. Geo. W. Gore, President, Florida A. & M. University, Tallahassee, Fla., James Quincey, National FFA Vice President, Southern Region, Trenton, Fla., Mayor Wm. B. Hartsfield, Atlanta, Ga.; Dr. Benjamin Mays, President, Morehouse College, Atlanta, Ga.; W. T. Schnathost, Supervisor of Educational Services, International Harvester Company, who is assisting this year John L. McCaffrey Chairman of the Sponsoring Committee for the Future Farmers of America Foundation. P. 4

Business of the convention is conducted by the 7 national FFA officers and the "official delegates". There are 50 delegates from the 16 States. Delegates serve on various committees, take part in floor discussions and vote on business matters.

Marvin Rountree, Elm City, N. C., will wield the gavel as national NFA president. The other national officers who will assist him are Robert Hilliard, Hardwood, La., student secretary; and the 3 vice presidents, Lewis Gibson, Marvell, Ark.; Paul Hull, Quantico, Md.; and James Donaldson, Madison, Fla.

Most of the convention's first day will be spent in registration and tours of the Atlanta area. Finals in the national NFA Public Speaking contest will be held that evening, along with performances by the national NFA chorus.

Tuesday, October 1, is the conventional "big day". Setting of official delegates starts the business session, followed by Mayor Hartsfield's welcoming address. Dr. Mays

will speak at about 10:00 a. m.

Mr. Robert D. McMillen will address the group about 9:00 a. m., Wednesday morning. Other features of that session will include presentation of the Superior Farmer Degree to 22 outstanding NFA members, honorary degrees to about 12 adults who have given unusual services to the organization.

The Wednesday evening program features presentation of the Star Superior Farmer awards. The Star Superior Farmer of America will receive an award of \$500.00 and 2 regional Star Farmers will be awarded \$250.00 each. The awards are given for outstanding achievement in farming and leadership.



Marshall, Va. - 10-13-57
Virginia's National NFA Winners

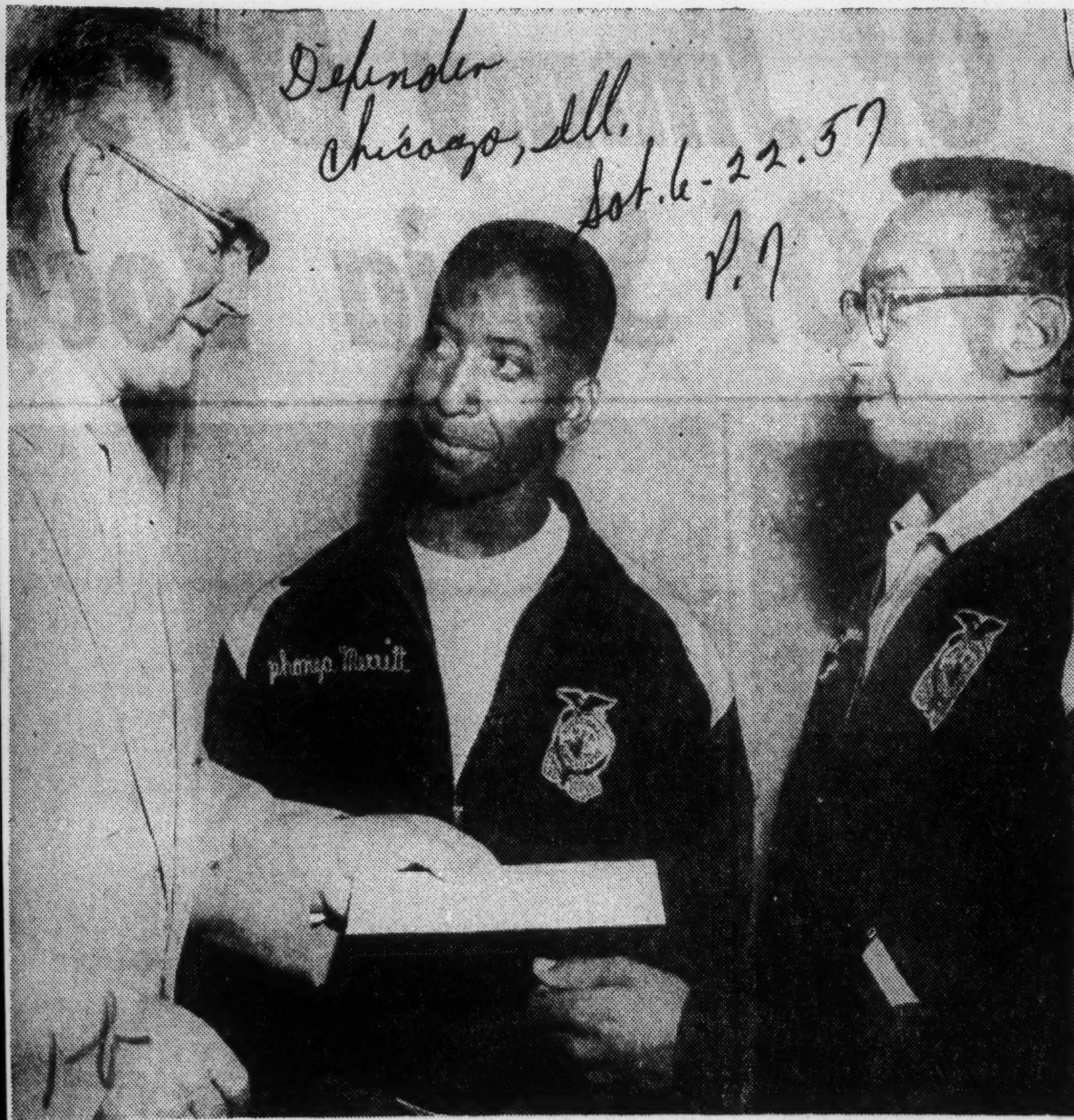
National winners of NFA honors discuss their farm projects with Dr. Robert P. Daniel, president of Virginia State College and honorary "New Farmer of America." Left to right: Franklin Scott of Rte 1, Amelia, Va., 1st place winner of the H. O. Sargeant Award; Eugene Ferguson, Rte 1, Rixeyville, Va., 1st place winner of the Star Superior Farmer Award; Dr. Daniel. Looking on are Dr. John L. Lockett, director of VSC's School of Agriculture and Dr. Marvin Fields, NFA State Advisor. The awards were made at the NFA National Convention which was held recently in Atlanta, Georgia. (Photo By Burke)



To Receive Honor

Sat. 10-3-57
 W. A. Goldsborough, teacher of vocational agriculture, Dudley high school, and advisor for the Greensboro chapter of the New Farmers of America has been notified by the National Association of New Farmers of America, Washington, D. C., that he is to receive their highest award in the field of agriculture on Oct. 2, in Atlanta, Ga.

Dr. W. F. Spanton, director of Agriculture Education, Washington, D. C., stated that the national officers and advisory council of the NFA were conferring upon him the honorary superior farmers degree at the twenty-third national NFA convention in the Municipal Auditorium, Atlanta. Mr. Goldsborough is the only person in North Carolina to have been named for this award.



THEY'RE TOPS — When the North Carolina Association of New Farmers of America held its annual convention at A&T college, Greensboro, N. C., these youths were award-

ed top prizes in the year-round Supervised Farming contest. F. C. Stallings, jr., Raleigh, a representative of the Plant Food Institute, donor of

the Savings Bond prizes, presents them to winner Richard Hill (right) first prize, as Richard Lowert (center) second prize winner looks on.

Prominent Carolinians Cited As State's New Farmers Meet

GREENSBORO — Seven prominent North Carolina citizens, two of them college presidents, were honored when the state association of New Farmers of America met here at A&T College last week. Given Honorary Modern Farmer degrees and presented gold pins for their contributions to the or-

ganization and to agricultural progress in the State were: William F. Draughan, Sr., a successful Whitakers farmer; John C. McLaughlin, professor of rural sociology at A&T College; Dr. Rudolph Jones, president of Fayetteville State Teachers College; Dr. W. E. Reed, dean of the School of Agriculture at A&T College; L. R. Johnson,

Johnston County farm agent, Smithfield, S. D. Williams, president of Elizabeth City State Teachers College and W. A. Goldsborough, vocational agriculture teacher at the Dudley High School, Greensboro.

Presentations were made by Willie Riddick, of Winton, president of the State association.



GET HONORARY DEGREES

Honorary Modern Farmer degrees were conferred by the Florida Assn., of New Farmers of America on four members of the Florida A and M. University faculty

and staff and one vocational agriculture teacher. Left to right are J. A. Lawson, Sanford; Joseph Gibbs, representing Thomas M. Jenkins, dean, college of law; Dr.

L. H. B. Foote, director of health; Fred Gordon, assistant professor of husbandry and Major C. J. A. Paddyfoote, counselor, city men students, all of Florida A and M.

Henry C. McLean, Jr., of Dunn, took top honors of the convention when he received the Star Modern Farmer degree, highest honor given by the organization. Some 66 other members were awarded the Modern Farmer degree for outstanding achievements in farm projects.

Two national NFA officers — William P. Johnson, Jr., Conway, S. C., national reporter, and Marvin Roundtree, Elm City, national president and a student at A&T College brought greetings.

The 600 delegates also heard major addresses by Dean L. C. Dowdy of the School of Education and General Studies at A&T College; Sampson Bouie, Jr., Field Scout Executive, of Greensboro and Dr. Rudolph Jones, president of Fayetteville State Teachers College.

Two representatives of the DuBois High School chapter of NFA in Wake Forest, were winners in contests held. James Wray took first place in public speaking and Ronald Williams, first place in the talent contest with a piano solo.

Representatives from the Sampson County Training School at Clinton, won the quartet contest.

Following a spirited campaign, Theodore Coggins of Delco, who for the past four years has served as treasurer of the organization, was elected president. Also elected were: Curtis Mitchell, Supply, first vice president; Raymond Hawkins, Wake Forest, second vice presi-



New Farmers Of America Are With Us Again

The National Organization of the New Farmers of America are with us again. This group of up and coming youngsters, bent on that sacred mission of dealing with the soil is no stranger in our ranks. They meet here annually and as of former times, they have found a warm welcome. *Wored p. 6*

The city and state are highly honored at being the mecca for this young group who chooses to make our section a better place by putting in their annual appearance.

To see young teen-agers of high school and college status engage in farm discussions is indeed encouraging. It says in so many terms that the young people of the nation have not turned their backs on farming. *Atlanta, Ga -*

In a new age of streamline precision and modern appliances, the farm has emerged from its uninviting features; it has come out into the open air of wholesome environs which make it a vocation of high respectability. *Wed. 10-2-57*

Those in charge of this affair are to be congratulated for their foresight and native interest in keeping alive this fine organization. The young people are also in for an ovation for their unstinted interest and the willingness to put all they have into the movement.

Auburn Avenue finds quite a contribution in the appearance of these young people, donned in uniforms and decorated in black and gold, parading her commons.

We are proud to have them among us and they must have felt that warm welcome in days gone by as they insist upon coming again and again and again.

HONOR TO NFA FOUNDERS — A highlight of Tuesday night's session of the New Farmers of America convention was the memorializing of one of the founders of the organization, S. B. Simmons. Gathered around the portrait of Mr. Simmons are left to right: A. Floyd, Tuskegee, Alabama; J. R. Thomas, Virginia State College; Mrs. S. B. Simmons, D. C. James, Langston University, Oklahoma; and Marvin Roundtree, NFA National President. Mr. Thomas and Mr. Jones were also honored for their contributions to NFA. — (Perry's Photo)

New Farmers Close Meet; New Officers Elected

Wored, P. 4 Sat. 10-12-57
ATLANTA, GA. — (SNS) — More than 300 youngsters attending the 23rd national convention of New Farmers of America closed out their five-day visit in Atlanta Friday with election of officers and the announcement of various contest winners.

The following officers were selected to direct NFA national affairs for the next year: President, Johnny Knox, Jr., Alabama; First Vice President, Waverly T. Jones, Virginia, and Second Vice President, Clifford Jay, Jr., Georgia.

Other officers elected were: Secretary, Vernell White, South Carolina; Treasurer, O. L. Phillips, Tex.; and Reporter, James Tatum, Tennessee.

E. M. Morris, of Texas, was given the adult office of National Executive Secretary. Other adult officers are:

W. T. Johnson of North Carolina, National Executive Treasurer; G. W. Conoly, of Florida, Adviser; W. T. Spanton, of Washington, D. C., Administrative Adviser; and other Southern states in the livestock judging contest. Following Tennessee, in order, were Arkansas, Oklahoma, Virginia and Louisiana.

New Farmers of America is the national organization of, by and for farm boys studying vocational agriculture in public secondary schools. NFA operates under the provisions of the National Vocational Education Acts.

The state of Tennessee led four visor, and W. N. Elam, of Washington, D. C., Administrative Executive Secretary.

94 score gave Tommie Downer, a Georgian, representing the Sargent Section, second place. Howard Warren, of Virginia, won third place with a score of 64. He represented the Washington Section.

James Wray, a North Carolinian, won first place in the public speaking contest while Sidney A. Russell, of Georgia, placed second. Louisiana's Frederick Peters was named third place winner in the contest.

First, second, and third place winners in the NFA talent contest were, respectively, Bobby Smith, of Florida; Ronald Williams of North Carolina, and Dewey Christian, of Texas.



*World P. 1 Fri 1-31-58
Atlanta, Ga*

NEA OFFICERS CONFER—The New Farmers of America are shown putting final touches on the annual program for this fall. These are national officers who have been meeting in Atlanta at the Butler Street YMCA this week. They also gave a special banquet on Wednesday evening for people in the Atlanta community who had worked with them. Left to right sitting are: G. W. Conoly, national advisor, Tallahassee, Fla.; Vernell White, sec-

retary, Lancaster, S. C.; Johnny Knox, president, Eutaw, Ala.; Waverly T. Jones, first vice president, Waverly, Va.; E. M. Norris, executive secretary, Prairie View, Texas. Standing, Clifford Jay, Jr., second vice president, Ocilla, Ga.; O. L. Phillips, Jr., treasurer, Neches, Tex.; W. T. Johnson, executive treasurer, Greensboro, N. C.; James Tatum, reporter, Cardova, Tenn., and Eugene T. Martin, Jr., third vice president, Calhoun, La.

New Farmers Will End Leadership Conference Today

*World P. 1
Fri 1-31-58
Atlanta, Ga*

The Leadership Conference of the national officers of the New Farmers of America that opened Sunday at the Butler Street YMCA will end today after the group spent a week receiving training and experience in their duties as new national officers for the year.

The purpose of the meeting was to get the officers familiar with new duties and to make plans for the NFA's national convention which meets at the Atlanta City

Atlanta, Ga.
Auditorium, September 29 through October 5.

While in Atlanta, the officers took time out to sponsor a program over radio station WERD hear business leaders at a banquet and tour Negro businesses.



STUDENT OFFICERS AND LEADERS

Pictured are student officers of Alabama State Associations of NFA and NHA in their planning meeting for the 1957 joint convention at Tuskegee. Assisting are Arthur Floyd and Mrs. Bettye Steele Turner, State Advisor, both standing.

Farmers And Homemakers Session Will Draw 1,500

Advisers Sun. 3-26-57 Montgomery, Ala. P. H.
TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala., president; Dr. R. E. Camack, state director of vocational education; also Miss Ruth Stovall and T. L. Faulkner of Montgomery, state supervisor of home economics and agricultural education.

May 25—Nearly 1,500 boys and girls from high schools in 65 counties in Alabama are expected at Tuskegee Institute May 29. They, along with 200 school faculty advisors, will be attending the first annual joint convention of the state associations of New Farmers of America and New Homemakers of America. In the past these groups have held separate annual conferences.

Among the highlights of the three-day meet will be contests in livestock judging, public speaking, and an international talent program under the theme, "Learning More About Our Neighbors, Home and Abroad." The popular, "Jackie" will supervise this talent contest.

Special forums on "Teen-Age Problems" and "Family Responsibility in Making A Better Nation Through Better Homes" will be presided over by the Rev. Raymond Harvey, pastor of the Greenwood Missionary Church, Tuskegee, and Mrs. Mildred H. Tapscott of Huntsville. Other program participants will include: Dr. L. H. Foster, Tuskegee Institute president; Dr. R. E. Camack, state director of vocational education; also Miss Ruth Stovall and T. L. Faulkner of Montgomery, state supervisor of home economics and agricultural education. The entertainment feature of this host of teen-age students will be the acquaintance party on Wednesday evening for which the famous Cherokees of Montgomery will be imported to perform musically. The agenda includes sightseeing tours and other recreational activity between and within the sessions. The 1,500 delegates will represent some 5,000 girls in 96 state chapters of NHA and upwards of 4,000 boys constituting the 81 NFA chapters. Association presidents are Calvin McCarroll of Marengo County Training School, Thomasville, and Minnie Christmas of Clarke County Training School, Coffeeville. Arthur Floyd and Mrs. Betty Steele Turner, assistant state supervisors of agriculture and home economics education, are state advisors to the student groups.

Young Homemakers Hold Confab At A & T In Greensboro



WHEN THE NEW Homemakers of America held their annual State convention at A & T college in Greensboro, N. C., recently Mrs. A. D. White

(center) Mocksville, advisor for District Seven gave advice to Doris Kincaid (left) Morgantown, newly elected parliamentarian and Pearline Myers

of Wadesboro, retiring secretary Center: the newly elected officers of the North Carolina New Homemakers installed at the convention includes (from

left seated) Doris Kincaid, Morgantown, parliamentarian; Dolly Kendall, Albemarle, vice president; Lula Goolsby, Mocksville and Alma Pinnix,

Yanceville, secretary. Those standing are Evangeline Grant, Scotland Neck, song leader; Ruby Smith, Mt. Olive, historian; Barbara Mosely, report-

er and Evangeline Boone, treasurer. Photo right: Marvin Rountree, Elm City, a freshman at A and T college

New Homemakers Convention At A & T Attracts Record-Smashing 2,000

GREENSBORO, N. C. — The largest delegation in the history of the organization attended the annual State Convention of the New Homemakers of America, held recently at A and T college. The mammoth gathering of nearly 2,000 high school girls more than filled the Harrison Auditorium. They came from every section of the State.

Dr. Flemmie P. Kittrel, head, Home Economics Department, Howard university at Washington, D. C., delivered the keynote address. Speaking at the morning session, which got underway at 10:00 o'clock, she described

"better homelife" as the real solution to world peace.

The speaker, who has travelled in many parts of Europe, Asia and Africa as a nationally prominent home economics consultant, spoke from the subject. "Today's Teenagers — Tomorrow's Homemakers," the theme for the convention. She tabooed some of the theories about the current crop of youngsters. She said that people have always felt that young people were "off track," but "Teen-agers have, throughout history, pushed civilization ahead."

Referring to the international scene, she said "one world" is still more physical than spiritual. "But we are on the way towards making it more spiritual and more social," "We'll have a good world, one of peace," she said. "Only until we are able to better home living throughout the world."

The group was welcomed by Dr. T. Gibbs, president of the college. He was later made an honorary member of the organization and presented the official pin by Margaret Patterson, retiring president.

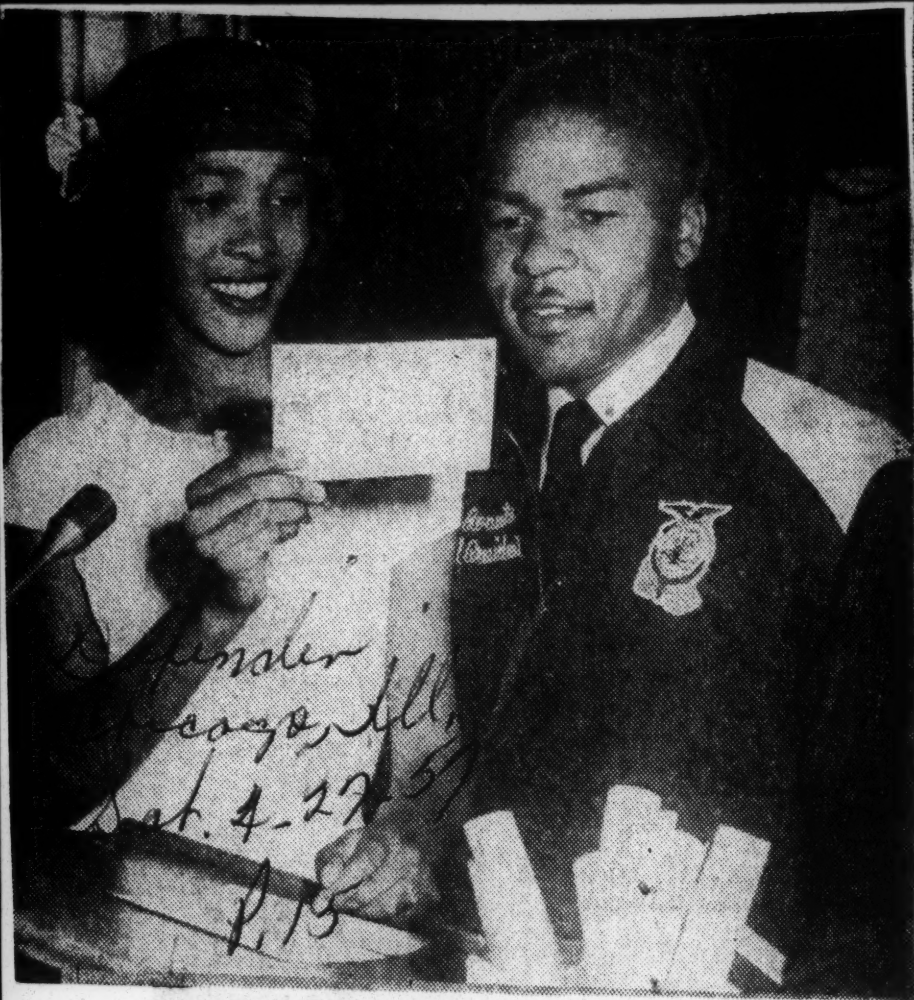
The group was also greeted by Willie Riddick, Winton, State president of the New Farmers of America.

Advanced Homemaker degrees were awarded for outstanding

achievement to the following: Olive, historian and Evangeline Marjorie Vaughn, Hoann Martin, Grant, Scotland Neck, song leader; Lillie Manns, Ramona Dillard, er. Deloris Broadnax, Barbara Brown Mrs. Marie C. Moffitt, Durham, and Mildred Graves, all of Leaks-assistant State supervisor of Voville and Betty Sharpe, States-cational Home Economics, is Adviser to the group.

Lula Goolsby, Mocksville, who was installed as the new president of the organization was selected by the State organization as candidate for the national vice presidency subject to the election to be held at the annual national convention at Grambling, La., this June.

Other officers included: Dolly Kendall, Albermarle, vice president; Alma Pinnix, Yanceville, secretary; Evangeline Boone, Louisburg, treasurer; Barbara A. Mosely, Whiteville, reporter; Doris Kincaid, Morgantown, parliamentarian; Ruby Smith, Mount



national president of the New Farmers of America, brought greetings from his group to the State convention of New

Homemakers. He chats with Miss Margaret Patterson, Lenoir, retiring president of the Homemakers.



FLOWER FOR A LADY—Dr. Flemmie P. Kittrell (right), head of the Home Economics department at Howard university, receives an orchid corsage from Evangeline Boone, Louisburg, N. C. Dr. Kittrell delivered the keynote

address at the recent State convention of the New Homemakers of America held at A and T College in Greensboro, N. C. Miss Boone is the newly elected treasurer of the organization.

1b 1957

NEW HOMEMAKERS OF AMERICA

New Homemakers Convention At A & T

Defender Sat. 4-27-57 Chicago, Ill. P. 13

Attracts Record - Smashing 2,000

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Mrs. Marie C. Moffitt, Durham, assistant State supervisor of Vocational Home Economics, is Adviser to the group.



HONORED—Mrs. Rebecca F. Netterville, retired Louisiana State adviser. New

Homemakers of America, has received a scroll from the faculty and staff of Southern University, Baton Rouge. Mrs. Netterville was honored when she retired after 34 years of service and again when the NHA held its annual meeting at Southern.

New Homemakers Will Hold National Meeting Next Month At Grambling

Herald Tribune Ala. Tues. 5-28-57

Special to The Herald

GRAMBLING, La.—Some 250 teen-age delegates to the 1957 national meeting of the New Homemakers of America will convene June 3 at Grambling College. The delegates will review the contributions to family happiness made during the past year by nearly 56,000 NHA members.

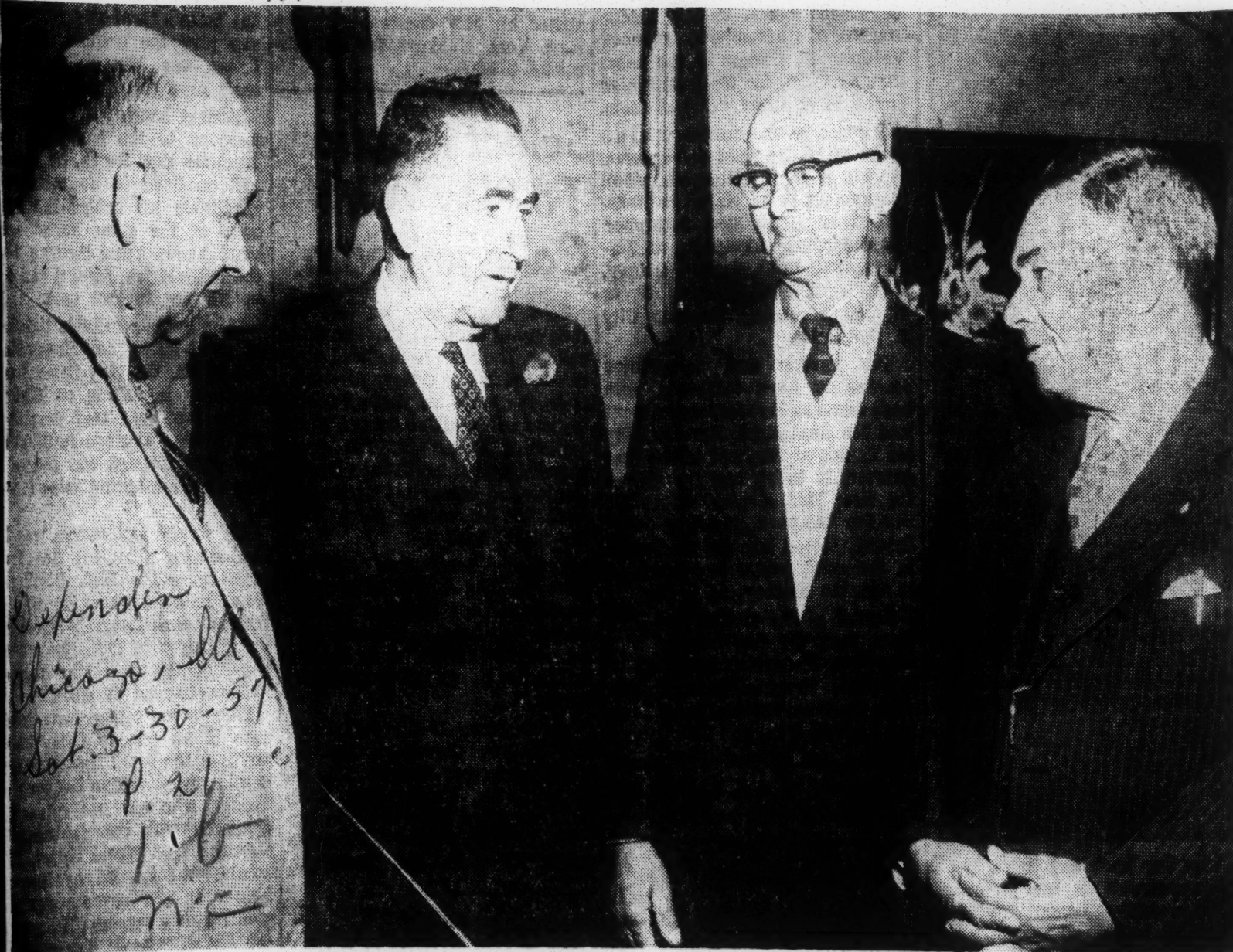
Plans also will be made for further action to promote happy family living.

The five-day national meeting theme is "Today's Teen-agers—Tomorrow's Homemakers."

General sessions and work groups will concentrate on ways youth can promote family happiness through such projects as home safety and civil defense, home beautification, dollars and sense in the family living and fun for the family.

The national officers of the organization, all high school girls, helped plan the meeting.

National officers are Naomi Smith, president, Thomson, Ga.; Beverly Davis, secretary, Middletown, Del.; Barbara Jenkins, vice president, Baton Rouge, La.; Alice Hill, vice president Frederick Md., and Claudia Bow, treasurer, Sikeston, Mo.



AT "COUNTY OF YEAR"
award ceremony in Roxbury,
N. C., Senator W. Kerr Scott,

left center chats with Person
County farmers Eugene Hum-
phrey, Semora, N. C., and
James Talley, Roxboro, RFD,
was owned by David Merritt, also
of Wendell.

(right) as J. W. Jefferies, dis-
trict agent with the A & T
college extension service looks
on from left. The action took

place at Roxboro last week as
Person County received the
County of the Year award.

Grand Champion N. C. Ham Sells For \$20.50 Lb.

The grand champion ham brought \$20.50 a pound, or a total the hams, and \$10.85 a dozen for at \$287 at the 10th Annual Ham and Egg Show and Sale of Johnson County, N. C., held recently in Smithfield, reports Negro County Agent L. R. Johnson. Altogether, the colored farmers of Johnson County brought to the show and sale 205 hams and 96 dozen eggs. The event is sponsored by the Smithfield, N. C., Chamber of Commerce. Owner of the top ham was farmer David Richardson of Wendell, who also exhibited the grand champion ham in 1956. The reserve champion ham, which brought \$102,



YEAR-ROUND MEAT SUPPLY — Mr. and Mrs. Melton T. Humphrey, center, of Lumberton, N. C., are in their smokehouse showing home-cured hams and bacon to their Extension workers. The workers, left to right, are: S. T. Brooks, retired county agent; J. A. Spaulding, district agent; and Mrs. Mollye H. Briley, county home agent. The Humphreys have discovered that by producing and conserving their own year-round food supply, they can help offset their lower relative returns from tobacco and other crops. — (USDA) Photo)

1b 1957

NORTH CAROLINA

Six N. C. Counties In Finals For "Year's Award"

GREENSBORO, N. C. — Six North Carolina Counties have been named as finalists for the 1956 "County of the Year" Award, with special reference to Negro progress.

Included in the list were: Person, Edgecombe, Iredell, Duplin, Union and Nash Counties. These counties, on the basis of outstanding progress made by their Negro residents during the past year, are in competition for the \$500 Rural Progress Award, given jointly by Dr. Clarence Poe, Raleigh, publisher of the Progressive Farmer, a prominent farm journal and the Agricultural Association of A. and T. College, an organization of professional agricultural workers at the college.

The announcement was made this week by Dr. W. E. Reed, dean, School of Agriculture at A. and T. College and chairman of the State Rural Progress Committee.

He stated that the finalists were in competition with 60 other counties now using services of the various agricultural agencies. They were adjudged first winners by reason of outstanding progress in the following areas: desirable adjustment in agricultural practices,

community improvement, improved homemaking and family living better opportunities for rural youth and cooperation between all agencies, group and individuals.

The State committee will visit each of the communities during late January and early February for the final evaluation and the decision will be released immediately following, Reed told reports.

Winners in previous years include: Hertford, 1952; Orange 1953; Sampson, 1954 and Nash, 1955.

Members of the committee in addition to Dr. Reed are: S. B. Simons, assistant supervisor of Vocational Agriculture; R. E. Jones, state agent, N. C. Extension Service; E. F. Corbett, public relations director, all of A. and T. College; A. W. Solomon, Greensboro field representative, N. C. Farm Bureau Federation and Dr. Jones E. Jeffries, tobacco marketing specialist, Production Marketing Administration, both of Greensboro; Mrs. Ruth Lawrence Woodson, supervisor, N. C. Negro Elementary Schools; Dr. S. F. Duncan, supervisor N. C. Negro High School and Department of Public Welfare, all of Raleigh and Mrs. Lucy F. James,

Durham, supervisor, Vocational Home Economics.



N. C. RURAL PROGRESS LEADERS — Dr. W. E. Reed, left, dean of the School of Agriculture at A&T College, checks over a report of progress made by rural families in Person County, North Carolina during 1956. With G. L. Harper, center, principal of the Person County Training School

and chairman of the County Rural Progress Committee and C. J. Ford, right, Person County farm agent, both of Roxboro. Person County was this week named for the "County of the Year" award for 1956 in the North Carolina Rural Progress Campaign with special reference to Negroes.

Person County Named "County of Year"

GREENSBORO, Feb. 16 (AP) — Person County has been named as winner of the "County of the Year" award for 1956 in the North Carolina rural progress campaign. The award, which includes an outright grant of \$500, is given annually to the county in which the Negro population has contributed the most impressive gains to the overall development of the county.

The prize money, given by Dr. Clarence Poe, Raleigh, publisher of the "Progressive Farmer" and the Agricultural Association of A & T College may be used "for any worthwhile purpose" of bene-

that Person County exhibited a high spirit of cooperation between agencies and groups aimed at meeting the needs of farm families.

The award is to be presented at a public meeting to be held in the county later this month.

Farmer's Plight Told At Dairy Meet In N. C.

GREENSBORO, N. C. — The precarious position of the North Carolina farmer was described last week at A & T College. The speaker, D. S. Weaver, director of Extension, State College, Raleigh, delivered the main address at a dinner meeting on Friday night, the climax of the three-day Dairy Production Short Course held

here Feb. 6-8.

He described crop production as moving slowly to a "bad situation by governmental control programs. "We've worked ourselves out of cotton production and are on the way to doing it with tobacco" he said.

He told the dairy producers that while Americans might eat better foods, they can hardly eat more. "If food prices were cut in half, would we eat anymore?" he asked. He said that about the only way Carolina farmers could earn more is by producing more, but the market for more is not now existent.

Weaver displayed a graph depicting the decline in farm population over the last century and told the group that 12 per cent of the population is now producing more food and fibre than the rest of the nation can consume. "This small group", he said, "is feeding Americans better than ever before and cheaper than ever before." He also said that the food is of better quality and of a wider variety. The speaker said that while Americans are eating more and better food, they still have enough money left over to buy more and more automobiles, television sets and other modern conveniences which used to be called luxuries.

"Eat," he said, as farm people we have not been able to retain for ourselves a normal profit on our important contribution" and listed as the country's major problem that the vast number of American farmers have just begun to eke out a minimum living.

He urged North Carolina farmers "to work with our city brothers and to teach them to work with us" and offered this important to the salvation of the agriculture

industry.

"Dairying", he emphasized, is the most exacting of all agricultural pursuits", and told the group that the industry's biggest need is a strong public relations program. He said that in selling the value of milk in the diet and by getting Americans to consume their normal amounts, most of their problems would be solved.

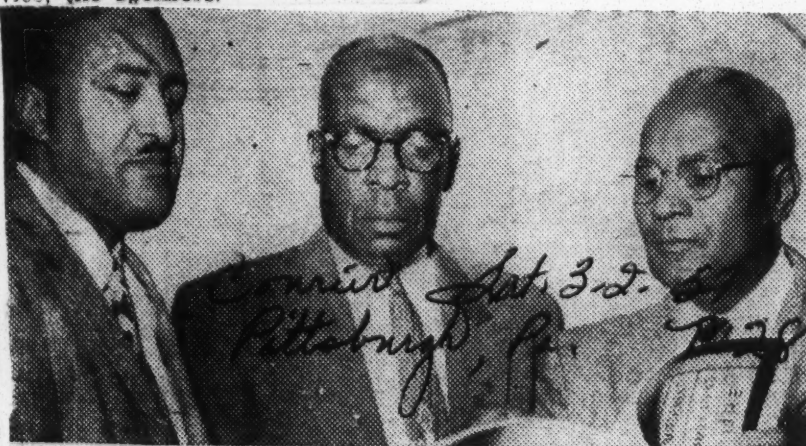


RURAL PROGRESS LEADERS—Dr. W.E. Reed (left) dean of the School of Agriculture at A&T College, checks over a report of progress made by rural families in Person County during 1956, with G. L. Harper, (center) principal of the Person County Training School and chairman of the County Rural Progress Committee, and C. J. Ford, Person County farm agent, both of Roxboro.

The speaker was introduced by R. E. Jones, State agent, in charge of the A & T College Extension Service. Theme affair was sponsored by the Greensboro Chamber of Commerce. H. D. Mauldin, Greensboro, represented the sponsoring group.

Two-Warren County farmers were honored for having maintained the highest production records in the "Weigh A Day - A Month" Campaign conducted during the past year. They were Percy Summer-ville, first prize, and N. P. Hunt, second prize. The awards were presented by George Hyatt, Jr., in charge of Dairy Extension at State College.

Other persons who appeared on the program of the three-day meet, included: Dr. Edward G. Batte, T. C. Blalock, George Hyatt, Jr., Dr. J. C. Osborne, Guy Parsons, Dr. R. B. Redfern and Marvin S. Senger, all of the State College, Raleigh staff; F. R. Farnham, Wilkesboro, assistant manager, Yadkin Valley Dairy Cooperative; E. J. Flora, Charlotte and Henry Vans-try, Statesville, representatives of national milk processing firms; Dr. George H. Hopsin, Poughkeepsie, N. Y. sales manager of a national dairy equipment manufacturer; R. G. Lytel, Greensboro, manager, Carolina Milk Producers Associa-tion; Carl Whitside, Greensboro, Carolina manager, American Dairy Association; Dr. W. L. Kennedy, S. J. Hodges and other A & T College staff members.



RURAL PROGRESS LEADERS—Elated that Person County was named winner of the "County of the Year" award for 1956 in the North Carolina Rural Progress campaign, Dr. W. E. Reed, left, dean of the School of Agriculture at A&T College, checks a report on the subject with G. L. Harper, center, principal of the Person County Training School and chairman of the County Rural Progress committee, and C. J. Ford, right, Person County farm agent, the latter two of Roxboro.



POTATO SHOW—Some 500 4-H'ers competed at the Northeastern District potato show at Walstonburg last week to show off their production of potatoes. Left to right W. G. Pearce, Pitt County Negro agent, Arthur Council, reserve champion, and James Gold, Pitt County Negro farm agent, look over the winning baskets. Gerald Pearce, Grand Champion, was absent when the picture was made. (Photo by Bob Aiken).

FARMERS CAN FIND NEW INCOME IN P TO P

Extension Service Official

Urges Participation

PRIZES TOTAL \$20,000

By WALTER DURHAM
Director, Plant To Prosper Bureau

Mid-South farmers seeking new ways to increase income should enroll in The Commercial Appeal's Plant To Prosper program this year.

This opinion was expressed yesterday by M. S. Shaw, associate director of the Mississippi Agricultural Extension Service, in calling upon farm families of Mississippi, Missouri, Arkansas and Tennessee to enter Plant To Prosper and become eligible for cash prizes totaling almost \$20,000 at state, county and sweepstakes levels.

Meanwhile, County Agent Elmo Hill of Belzoni, Miss., credited Plant To Prosper with "making a great contribution to the success of agriculture in the Memphis area."

Inspiration To Farmers

"Plant To Prosper," said Mr. Hill, "has been an inspiration to our people to do a better job of farming and homemaking. It has helped our people to appreciate their place in the agricultural world. It is and long has been serving a need that cannot be met as effectively in any other way."

In urging farmers to participate in Plant To Prosper, Mr. Shaw said every extra dollar of farm income will be important this year.

"Plant To Prosper can help farmers increase their net income in two ways—first by encouraging them to do a better job of production and marketing of their products and of buying supplies, and second by the awarding of worthwhile cash prizes," Mr. Shaw said.

Mr. Shaw pointed out that in the White Division of Plant To Prosper it is possible for a tenant farm family to win as much as \$725 this year—\$100 for being first place tenant winner in the state, \$125 for winning the home improvement state and sweepstakes awards and \$500 for being

the tenant sweepstakes winner. Local prizes could increase this sum materially.

In the White Division, landowner state winners also will receive \$100 each. The top landowner of the four states will get a \$500 prize.

Negro Division

In the Negro Division, the tenant champion may receive cash awards amounting to \$375—\$50 for being first in the state, \$75 for winning first in home improvement and \$250 for being chosen tenant sweepstakes champion.

The Negro landowner champion will receive at least \$400—\$350 as the sweepstakes prize for the division and \$50 as the first place state winner. Negro landowners also are eligible for the \$75 in home improvement prizes. "These awards," Mr. Shaw said, "make it well worth the time and effort of every farm family to participate in the program. Every sincere participant will be a winner this fall."

Joining The Commercial Appeal in sponsoring the farm program at the state and sweepstakes levels are the Memphis Chamber of Commerce and the Colored Tri-State Fair.

At the local level, Plant To Prosper is sponsored in many counties by the Farm Bureau, civic and service clubs and business and professional men.

Contact County Agent

Farmers may enter by contacting their county agent, home demonstration agent, Farmers Home Administration county supervisor, Soil Conservation Service technicians, or Veterans on-the-farm instructor. The enrollment period ends June 1.

Among enrollment leaders sending in contest nominations during the past week were George C. Brown, FHA supervisor of Brookhaven, Miss.; W. E. Strider, FHA supervisor of Lexington, Miss.; Edward L. Blue, FHA supervisor of Quitman, Miss.; William C. Whittington, FHA supervisor of Collins, Miss.; Wince W. Nordan, FHA supervisor of Cleveland, Miss.; County Agent R. A. Anderson of Macon, Miss.; R. M. McCord, FHA supervisor of Pontotoc, Miss.; and Cecil A. Barnett, FHA supervisor of Decatur, Miss.

ENROLLMENT TIME HERE FOR FARMERS

Hundreds Signing Up For

Plant To Prosper

AWARDS ARE OFFERED

By WALTER DURHAM
Director, Plant To Prosper Bureau

This is Plant To Prosper—Balanced Farming enrollment time in the Mid-South.

Right now the drive to get farm families of Arkansas, Mississippi, Missouri and Tennessee to enter the three-point program is especially active in Arkansas.

All over that state county contest committees are meeting to map plans for the 1957 registration campaign and to raise funds for cash prizes to be awarded to winners at the local level.

Three Sponsors

In Arkansas, the contest is sponsored by The Commercial Appeal, the Arkansas Power & Light Co., and the Arkansas Press Association. State and county awards will total around \$8,000 of the \$20,000 to be received by white and Negro families of the four states this year.

Co-operating in the program in Arkansas are all the state's agricultural agencies. County contest committee chairmen include county agents, Soil Conservation Service technicians, Farmers Home Administration supervisors, vocational agricultural instructors, bankers, editors, PCA and ASC officials and former contest winners who are still farming.

County committees in a number of Arkansas counties held organizational meetings last week and at least eight others will start functioning this week, according to Ross Mauney, state contest director. Last year 69 of the state's 75 counties had contestants for state prizes.

In Arkansas, the power and light company duplicates the prizes given to state winners by The Commercial Appeal—\$100 for first place, \$75 for second and \$50 for third to both landowners and tenants in the White Division.

In the Negro Division the Arkansas utility also presents state winners the same amounts The

Commercial Appeal gives its state winners—\$50 for first, \$37.50 for second, \$32.50 for third and \$25 for fourth to both landowners and tenants.

Meetings Slated

Among Arkansas counties which will hold organizational meetings this week are North and South Mississippi County, Greene, Clay, Randolph, Sharp, Fulton, Lawrence and Craighead.

Meanwhile, the enrollment campaign in Tennessee, Mississippi and Missouri Counties rolled along at a fast clip as county chairmen sent the names of hundreds of nominees to the Plant To Prosper Bureau.

Among those submitting contest nominees were County Agent Willis Davis and DeWitt Jones, FHA supervisor of Butler County, Mo.; County Agent Evans E. Wooten of Clay County, Miss.; Cecil V. Cummins, FHA supervisor of Panola and Lafayette Counties, Miss.; Chester W. Martin, FHA supervisor of McNairy County, Tenn.; Sam H. Starnes, FHA supervisor of Hinds County, Miss.; Miss Esther L. Kerr, home demonstration agent, and Miss Christine Brand, associate home demonstration agent of Neshoba County, Miss.

Others Sending Entries

County Agent A. M. Walker of Weakley County, Tenn.; County Agent R. C. Robinson of De Soto County, Miss.; James E. Hudleston, FHA supervisor of Claiborne County, Miss.; James M. Simmons, FHA supervisor of Carroll County, Tenn.; William D. Gooch, associate county agent of Tallahatchie County, Miss.; Billy W. Harris, associate county agent of Quitman County, Miss.

E. R. Shockley, Negro county agent of Hardeman County, Tenn.; Ella Stackhouse, Negro home agent of Pemiscot and Dunklin Counties, Mo.; Charles R. Fletcher, Negro county agent of De Soto County, Miss.; Ethel Edmond Parks, Negro home agent of Tippah County, Miss.; Ernest Brazzle, Negro county agent of Shelby County, Tenn.; Jeanetta Kellee, Negro home agent of Choctaw County, Miss.; and Jennie M. Tolbert, Negro home agent of Yalobusha County, Miss.

NEGRO P TO P WINNER NAMED IN ARKANSAS

Prizes Are Awarded At Pine Bluff Rally

250 FAMILIES ATTEND

Special to The Commercial Appeal

PINE BLUFF, Ark., Nov. 29.—

joins The Commercial Appeal Arkansas farmers who will carry the state's standards in the sweepstakes judging of the Negro Division of The Commercial Appeal's 1957 Plant To Prosper Contest were announced here Friday.

Selected as state landowner champion were Mr. and Mrs. Roy Collins of Tamo, Jefferson County, \$75; Mr. and Mrs. Horatious Eugene Bell of Oneida, Phillips County, \$65, and Mr. and Mrs. Jeffery Morris of Route 1, West Memphis, Crittenden County, \$50.

Second, third and fourth place tenant winners and their prizes were Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Harris of Route 2, Marianna, Lee County, \$75; Mr. and Mrs. Gaither of Frenchman's Bayou, Mississippi County, \$65, and Mr. and Mrs. K. C. Jones of Route 5, Columbia County, \$50.

Winners were selected by a committee headed by T. R. Betton, state Negro extension agent. Serving with him were Mrs. Fannie Mae Boone, state Negro home demonstration agent; Miss Maude Esta Davis, Negro home development agent; L. L. Phillips, state Negro 4-H Club agent, and Learrie White, Negro farm development agent.

Take Top Honors.

Named for top honors in the Plantation Division were Mr. and Mrs. Richard Jones of Route 2, Cotton Plant, Woodruff County. On their 520-acre farm, with 300 acres in cultivation, they produce livestock, cotton, corn, soybeans and feed crops.

For placing first in their divisions, the Bells and the Billingsleys received \$50 each from the Arkansas Power & Light Co. at the annual Plant To Prosper-AM&N College here Friday. They also will receive \$50 each from The Commercial Appeal at the Plant To Prosper Rally at Booker T. Washington High School in Memphis Dec. 12.

Both families are now eligible for \$250 sweepstakes prizes given by The Memphis Chamber of Commerce to the landowner champion and by the Tri-State Fair to the tenant sweepstakes winner.

The Phillips family will receive

\$25 from The Commercial Appeal as state home improvement winners and are eligible for a \$50 home improvement sweepstakes award.

The Jones family will receive \$25 from The Commercial Appeal for taking first place in their division.

Have Turkey Dinner

The rally here, including a turkey dinner, was attended by some 250 farm families and Arkansas Negro agricultural leaders and educators. It was given by the power company, which in sponsoring the contest in the state's standards in the sweepstakes judging of the Negro Division of The Commercial Appeal's 1957 Plant To Prosper Contest were announced here Friday.

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The Phillips family will receive

Missouri P-To-P Negro Division Victors Named

Special to The Commercial Appeal
COLUMBIA, Mo., Nov. 9. — New Madrid, Pemiscot and Butler counties produced the first place Missouri state winners in the Negro Division of The Commercial Appeal's 1957 Plant To Prosper Contest. *P. 10*

The landowners are Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Wright Sr., 64 and 61, respectively, of Route 1, Matthews, New Madrid County, who have a 53-acre cotton, corn and soybean operation. They built a new home this year. *11-10-57*

The state tenant champions are Mr. and Mrs. Orlander Misters, 40 and 38, respectively, of Route 2, Steele, Pemiscot County, who grow cotton and hogs on their rented place. *11-10-57*

First place in the Home Improvement Division went to Mr. and Mrs. Joe W. Harley, 73 and 68, respectively, of Route 1, Brosely, Butler County, who also placed third in the Landowner Division. On their 80-acre farm they grow cotton, soybeans and sweet potatoes.

The Wrights and Misters will receive \$50 each at the Plant To Prosper Rally at Booker T. Washington High School in Memphis Dec. 12. The Wrights also are eligible for the \$250 landowner sweepstakes prize, while the Misters are eligible for the \$250 tenant sweepstakes award.

For placing first in home improvement, Mr. and Mrs. Harley will receive \$25 and are eligible for the \$50 home improvement sweepstakes prize. As third place landowner winners they will get an additional \$32.50.

Announcement of first, second, third and fourth place state winners in the Negro Division was made here Saturday by B. W. Harrison, state extension agent and chairman of the state judging committee.

Taking second place and \$37.50 in the Landowner Division were Mr. and Mrs. Louis Moss, 47 and 37, respectively, of Route 1, East Prairie, Mississippi County, who have a 119-acre cotton, livestock and grain operation.

Mr. and Mrs. Alex Burden, 38 and 40, respectively, of Gobler, Pemiscot County, who grow cotton and soybeans, placed second in the Tenant Division to win \$37.50.

Third place winners in the Tenant Division were Mr. and Mrs.

John T. Willis, 37 and 33, respectively, of Route 1, Bertrand, Mississippi County, who are cotton farmers. They will receive \$32.50.

Selected for fourth place prizes

NEGRO P TO P RALLY TO HEAR DR. STONE

600 County Winners To Attend Annual Contest Dec. 12

EDITOR TO GREET GROUP

By WALTER DURHAM

Director, Plant To Prosper Bureau

Dr. P. H. Stone, assistant to the administrator of the Federal Extension Service, will be principal speaker at the 20th annual rally of the Negro Division of The Commercial Appeal's Plant To Prosper Contest at Booker T. Washington High School Dec. 12.

Dr. Stone, whose career in agricultural extension work covers 37 years, will address some 600 county winners in the contest, Negro farm leaders and newspaper and business and professional men of the Mid-South.

Southern Barbecue

The program will begin at 10 a.m., with the registration of guests and will end with an old-fashioned Southern barbecue dinner. Ernest Brazzle, Shelby County Negro extension agent, will be in charge.

Dr. Stone will be presented by Prof. Blair T. Hunt, principal of Booker T. Washington High School.

Starting as a county agent in Clark County, Ga., Dr. Stone was promoted to state supervisor of Negro extension work seven years later because of his outstanding work in rural health and sanitation.

Some of the major achievements in Georgia under his leadership included the teaching of diversified farming, the development of a statewide ham and egg show to encourage better swine and poultry production and the construction of a \$500,000 Negro 4-H Club camp project on a 182-acre site near Dublin, Ga.

Appointed In 1955

He was appointed to his present post in April, 1955. His duties are assisting the administrator in developing extension pro-

grams and working with state extension services. *24-57*

Born in Franklin County, Va., Dr. Stone received his education at Hampton Institute and the University of Connecticut.

John Gammon Jr., president of the Farm Bureau at Marion, Ark., and a former landowner sweepstakes winner in the contest, will serve as master of ceremonies.

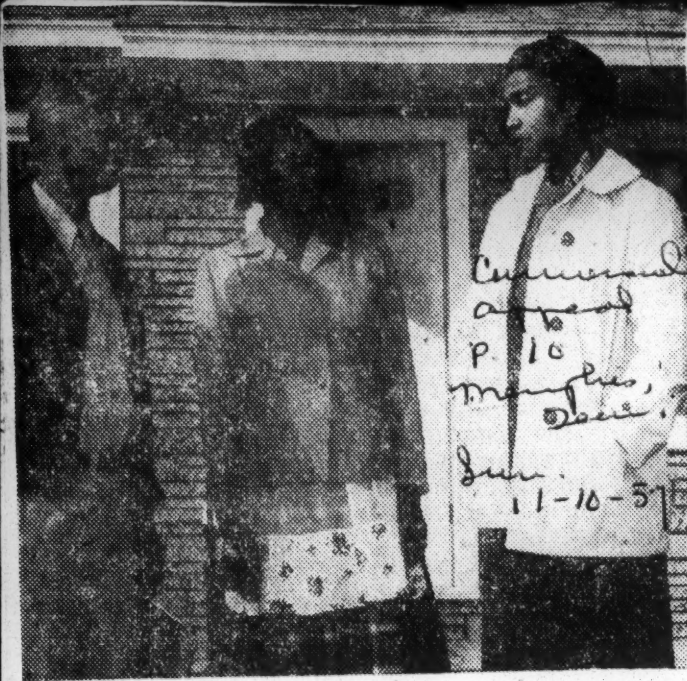
Greetings on behalf of The Commercial Appeal will be given by Gordon Hanna, managing editor, while W. H. Williamson, Tennessee assistant extension agent in charge of Negro work, will welcome the visitors to Memphis on behalf of the Tennessee Extension Service.

Others On Program

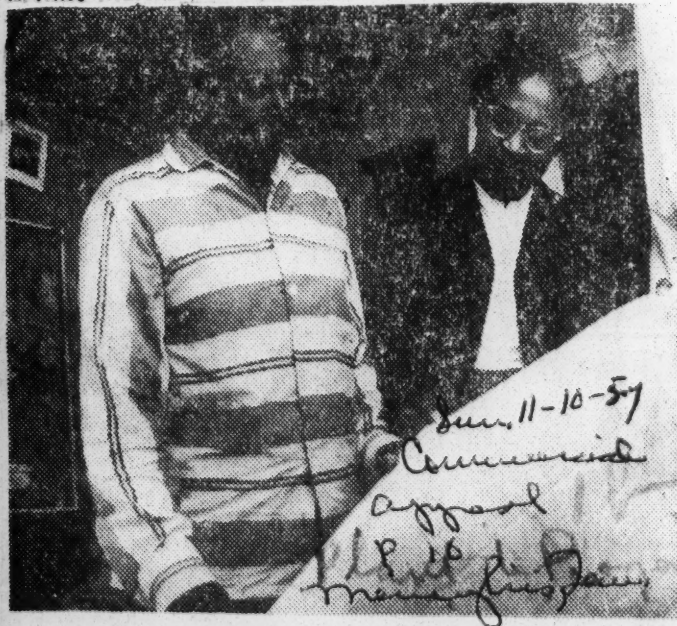
Others on the program include D. F. Martinez, president of Johnson Memorial College of Batesville, Miss.; Mrs. Imogene Hill, soloist; T. R. Benton, Arkansas Negro agricultural agent; Miss Bessie L. Walter, Tennessee assistant state agent in Negro home demonstration work; W. E. Ammons, state Negro leader in men's extension work; Mrs. Ella Stackhouse, home demonstrator agent for Dunklin and Pemiscot Counties, Mo., and T. R. Bettor Jr., trumpet soloist.

Prizes to state and sweepstakes winners will be presented by Darryl Francis, chairman of the agricultural committee of the Memphis Chamber of Commerce, Prof. R. J. Roddy, manager of the Tri-State Fair, and Walter Durham.

Music for the program will be provided by the Booker T. Washington Band, Mount Pisgah High School, Shelby County Training School and Arkansas High School of Caruthersville, Mo.



LANDOWNER WINNERS—Selected for first place in the landowner class of the Negro Division were Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Wright Sr. of Route 1, Matthews, New Madrid County, who built a new home this year on their 53-acre farm. Working with them on their plans for living at home is Miss Martha Farris, home demonstration agent.



TENANT CHAMPION — Taking first place in the Tenant Division was Jerry L. Greer (left) of Route 2, Charleston, Mississippi County. A livestock and cotton farmer, he operates a 200-acre place and has made splendid progress in his three years of farming on his own. Harold Dunn, assistant county agent, examines some of the champion's tools.

TO COTTON FARMERS

1b 1957

Soil Bank Checks Go Fast

By STUART V. STEPHENSON
Advertiser Alabama Editor

It wasn't World Series time, but many cotton farmers in Alabama stood or sat in line all night Sunday, Feb. 2-3-57. The early forecast was a speedily emptied federal till inssofar as the Soil Bank applicants were concerned.

More than 700 of 1,600 cotton farmers in Pike County became eligible for Soil Bank checks and the allotted \$138,000 for that county was spoken for early.

In Macon County more than 300 of the 1,422 eligible cotton farmers subscribed to the program while in Montgomery County there were 155 applicants out of 988 filing for the \$101,076 allotment.

Heavy registrations were reported in Dallas, Lowndes and Escambia counties. ASC (Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation) offices handled the registrations on a first come, first served basis.

Nearly one-third of the eligible recipients in Autauga County registered yesterday. The actual number was 273 out of 1,000. The Autauga County Soil Bank allotment is \$95,000.

In Barbour County State Rep. McDowell Lee appeared at the ASC office at 7:30 Sunday night and he was the 20th cotton farmer to be signed up after the office opened at 8:30 yesterday morning. After this ordeal he rushed over to Troy to handle his affairs for the land he owns in Pike County. He was lost in the shuffle somewhere between the 300 and 700th registrant.

Opinions varied on the success of the Soil Bank program, some ASC officials and farm agents predicting that some pinch will be felt by cotton ginners, equipment salesmen and fertilizer manufacturers.

Acreage taken out of cotton production will not the farmer \$46, a sharp decrease from the \$100 average for 300 pounds of lint. One agent said: "You can figure this out for yourself."

Since only enough money will be available for 22 per cent of the state's cotton farmers it means that 78 per cent will go without.

Farmers Get Until April 15 On Soil Bank

WASHINGTON, Feb. 8 (P)—The Agriculture department today extended from March 15 through April 15 the deadline for farmers to sign contracts to take part in the conservation reserve phase of the soil bank program.

The conservation reserve is the long-range part of the soil bank, which is designed to help reduce surpluses. Under it farmers may sign contracts to divert general crop land from the production of crops to soil and water conservation uses, tree planting and wildlife protection for periods of three, five or 10 years. They get rental payments as well as funds to pay up to 80 per cent of the cost of establishing conservation practices.

Deadline for signing agreements under the acreage reserve phase of the program expires March 1 for cotton and tobacco land and March 8 for corn, rice and spring wheat land.

Farmers Told Requirements Of Soil Bank

LINDEN, Ala., May 8 (Special)—Marengo County farmers who are participating in the acreage reserve (soil bank) program must comply with all requirements to earn payments, H. D. Alexander, chairman of the Marengo County ASC Committee said today.

Marengo farmers participating in the Acreage Reserve Program cannot remain overplanted on their maximum acres for harvest (1957 allotment minus acreage reserve). If a Marengo farmer overplants his maximum acres for harvest

he must destroy excess acreage according to marketing quota regulations.

Where a farmer wilfully and knowingly harvests or grazes designated acreage reserve land, the payment is forfeited and in addition he is subject to a civil penalty of 50 per cent of the payment which would have been made for compliance. If the payment has been made when the violation occurs, the amount of the payment must be refunded.

Chairman Alexander said Marengo farmers must control the spreading of noxious weeds on the reserve acreage and plant on the reserve acreage only the cover crops which have been approved by the Marengo County ASC Committee.

Marengo farmers who take part in the conservation reserve of the still bank also must comply with all acreage allotments for their farms in order to qualify for the conservation reserve payments.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture extended the farm storage equipment loan programs for another year through June 30, 1958, Alexander said.

These loans are designed to help farmers throughout the country obtain needed farm storage.

Under these programs, farmers can borrow a large part of the cost of additional farm storage space and drying equipment for grains and seeds.

SOIL BANK CONTROLS MAY BE TIGHTENED

Commercial Appeal
Crops
Wed. 6-26-57
HIGHER PRICE IS SEEN
Memphis Tenn.
By The Associated Press

WASHINGTON, June 25.—Secretary Benson said Tuesday the Agriculture Department is studying plans for tightening soil bank regulations to limit shifting of lands from designated surplus

SOIL BANK

Two Payments on Same Land

Herald Tribune P. 18

Soil Bank Farmers Found Cashing In

WASHINGTON, May 6 (P)—House investigators reported Monday that farmers cashed in heavily on government soil-bank payments last year under some "surprising" circumstances.

They recounted instances of dual government subsidies on the same piece of land, and quoted frank admission by some county officials that the soil bank served as a local drought-relief program rather than a crop-reduction measure.

In Kansas, investigators said, some individuals leased government-owned land and realized a handsome profit by promptly turning it back to the government for soil-bank payments that almost doubled the cost of the lease.

In other instances, they said they found that farmers collected Federal crop-failure insurance on the same land for which they also received soil-bank payments for not planting crops.

Some corn farmers in the Middle West, they said, received corn payments on land not even planted to corn and which, furthermore, was not eligible for corn production under Federal farm law.

These and other findings on the soil bank's first year of operation were made public Monday by House Appropriations Committee in connection with Agriculture Department requests for \$1,000,000,000 to operate the soil bank in the 1958 fiscal year which starts July 1.

Such plans, if adopted, would apply to the 1958 soil bank program—assuming that Congress authorizes its continuance. The House has voted to kill and the Senate to continue the major acreage reserve feature of the program.

Payments For Underplanting
Under the soil bank, farmers are offered payments for retiring land from production of such major surplus crops as cotton, wheat, corn, rice and tobacco. Payments may total close to 800 million dollars this year.

So far, there has been a tendency for farmers to retire land from these designated crops and to put other acres into substitute crops. This has the effect of transferring the surplus problem from one set of crops to another.

Other topics discussed at the conference included:

Farm program expenditures—Mr. Benson told a questioner that he saw nothing "sinister" in urban criticism of farm program costs. But he said he considered "unfortunate" reports that farmers were getting close to half their net income from the Government. Much of the Government outlay for agriculture is for purposes other than direct farm aid, he said.

Barter Cited

Barter of surplus farm products—The secretary was told that there is trade dissatisfaction with recent tightening of regulations under which his department barter surplus farm products for strategic materials abroad. Mr. Benson said the changes were made in the interest of developing permanent foreign markets for farm products and added that it was not his agency's responsibility to help metals.

Cotton—Mr. Benson said it was possible he will have to raise the price support rate for cotton before the new marketing year starts Aug. 1, but he declined to speculate as to how much the change might be.

New farm plans—The secretary said the Administration does not like proposals for so-called two-price plans for crops but added that "our minds are not closed to them." Under such a plan, products would be supported at one price for the domestic and at another and lower price for foreign markets.

Mid-South Growers Give Views To Senate

Directors of the Mid-South Cotton Growers Association yesterday instructed Hobson Vandiver, general manager of the organization, to wire the Senate Agricultural Committee that "the

economic health of a substantial portion of the United States depends on continued cotton support loans."

The directors adopted a resolution calling for a six-month extension of the loan on 1956-crop cotton, asserting that calling of the loan on July 31 as scheduled would depress the market on the new 1957 crop.

The association yesterday re-elected J. C. Rapp of McGehee, Ark., president and named Drew Vardell of Kennett, Mo., first vice president and C. E. Yancey Sr. of Briceys, Ark., second vice president.

HOUSE APPROVES SOIL BANK PL.

WASHINGTON, July 9 (P)—The House today reversed its stand of two months ago and voted to continue the Eisenhower administration's soil bank farm program for one more year. There wasn't even a fight about it.

The switch came on a voice vote which passed and sent to the Senate the annual agriculture appropriations bill. Senate approval seems certain.

On May 15 the House voted 192-187 to kill the major part of the soil bank plan at the end of this year. Critics charged it was marked by waste and mismanagement. Supporters argued it went into effect so late in the spring of 1956 it hadn't been given a fair trial.

The Senate balked at this House action and voted funds to continue full operation of the soil bank. A Senate-House conference committee then drafted a compromise bill, including the soil bank money which was voted on today.

Less Than Requested
As passed by the House, the bill gives the Agriculture Department some 3½ billion dollars for the fiscal year which began July 1. This was some 365 million dollars less than President Eisenhower had requested and nearly 100 millions less than the House voted originally.

The section of the soil bank involved in the House reversal was the acreage reserve feature. Under this farmers are paid for taking out of production land which

has been used to grow basic crops in surplus supply.

The House originally voted nothing for this plan while the Senate voted 500 million dollars. The Senate figure was accepted in the compromise.

Changes to Be Ordered

Some changes in the soil bank would be ordered by the compromise measure. One would limit to \$3,000 the amount of soil bank payments that could be made to any one farmer during 1958. Another would require that all benefits be paid by Sept. 15, 1958.

The compromise also calls for tightening up administration of the second part of the soil bank—the conservation reserve. The bill directs the secretary of agriculture to "give careful consideration" to the value of land converted to trees, grass and other long range conservation purposes. Farmers receive payments for such practices.

Conservation reserve payments in 1958 under the bill could total 325 million dollars. The House voted 250 millions and the Senate 350 millions.

State Farmers Put 239,130 Acres In Soil Bank's Conservation Vault

House Votes To Put End To Soil Bank Bars Payments During 1958

By The Associated Press
Washington, May 15.—The House voted today to kill the Administration's soil-bank farm program at the end of this year.

The revolt against the program flared up after critics had charged it was marked by waste and mismanagement.

A 192-to-187 roll-call vote wrote into the Agriculture Department appropriations bill an amendment barring any soil-bank payments to farmers in 1958.

The money bill, for the fiscal year starting July 1, was then passed and sent to the Senate by voice vote.

Senate Action Uncertain
What the Senate will do about the soil bank, a key item in President Eisenhower's farm program, is uncertain.

Voting to halt soil-bank payments were 154 Democrats and 38 Republicans. Opposed were 46 Democrats and 141 Republicans.

Representative Harrison (D., Va.) sponsored the amendment, which he termed a "temporary injunction" against continuing the soil bank. He agreed during debate that his aim was to kill the program.

The soil bank authorizes payments totaling as much as \$1,200,000,000 a year to participating farmers. Enacted last year, the program was set up to run until 1960, with the aim of cutting surplus production and encouraging conservation practices.

Opponents of the soil bank told the House that Secretary of

Agriculture Benson spent millions of dollars on the program last year without reducing production.

Chairman Goolley (D., N. C.) of the House Agriculture Committee said, "We have had evidence of many abuses of the program."

Supporters argued that the soil bank went into effect so late last spring it hadn't been given a "fair trial."

Representative Taber of New York, ranking Republican on the House Appropriations Committee, supported the move to end soil-bank payments. He declared, "It is the only way in which we can eliminate this enormous waste."

Taber said there would be "plenty of time" to pass other legislation if future Congressional study indicated the program should be revived.

Asks Thorough Overhaul
Benson, testifying today before the Senate Agriculture Committee, said federal farm-aid program plantings of trees or grass. The House did not change the 1957 authorization of up to \$450,000,000 for this feature.

As passed by the House, the money measure would give the Agriculture Department \$3,692,889,757 for fiscal 1958. This was \$272,566,860 less than the Administration requested.

Broader Authority Asked
Benson stressed the high cost of farm aid in urging the senators today to consider giving him broader authority to set the level of farm price supports.

Under present legislation, Benson said, farm aid will continue to be expensive. What's more, he added, there will be little progress toward solving the problem of surplus production.

As present surplus stocks are erased, the Secretary said, the law calls for raising price supports, which "sets the stage for Surplus No. 2" by encouraging farmers to grow more crops at the higher price.

The whole setup needs a thorough overhaul, he said.

Benson's testimony centered mainly on the flexible price-support system.

'Beachhead of Rationality'
This 1954 measure established "a beachhead of rationality in the setting of price-support levels," he said. But he added, "No one every maintained that it was an answer to all our farm

What needs to be done now, he said, is to give the secretary of agriculture broader authority to set price supports.

The 1954 law requires that supports be fixed within a range of 75 to 90 per cent of parity.

This range doesn't give the secretary enough leeway to discourage surpluses, Benson argued.

Stressing the cost of present farm legislation, Benson said programs primarily for support of farm prices and income cost \$1,900,000,000 in the 1956 fiscal year. The cost this year will be much larger, he said.

ATHENS, May 6—More than 5,000 contracts have been signed by Georgia farmers to place portions of their land in the conservation reserve part of the soil bank.

These figures were released Monday by John F. Bradley, state administrative officer of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Committee.

The 5,058 contracts will take 239,130 acres out of row crop production and put them into producing trees or cover crops.

Farmers will receive an estimated payment of \$1,854,901 rental per year for the land and \$2,355,802 during 1957 for "practices payments"—the government's part of the cost of setting out the trees or establishing the cover crops.

Georgia ranked fourth in the nation in number of contracts and average in the program. The and acreage in the program. The Texas, New Mexico and South Dakota, based on March 15 figures.

The program closed on April 15, and the rankings might possibly change, Bradley said.

Georgia was first by far in the number of acres slated to raise trees. Farmers have planted or will plant this year a total of 190,156 acres in tree cover—quick-growing pines for pulp and timber for the most part.

Laurens County with 227 contracts signed for a total of 17,535 acres, led all counties in participation. Of this, 14,686 acres were destined for tree cover.

Practice payments in Laurens will total \$154,495 and rental payments will be \$138,806 per year.

Next county in the state is Jefferson, with 179 contracts involving 10,109 acres. Here again, pine trees will cover the major portion—8,057 acres. Practice payments will be \$113,869, and rental payments per year will be \$79,923.

Only three of Georgia's 159 counties did not have a single contract. They were Camden, McIntosh and Glynn.

Bradley's office released average figures for practice payments per acre. For permanent cover the average was \$21.51 per acre; for tree cover, \$9.00; for winter cover, \$22.14; for summer cover, \$16.17; for wildlife cover, \$18.47.

Contracts vary in length. Expiration dates are 1959 on the shortest term contract; 1960 and 1961, depending on whether the contract was signed in 1956 or 1957, on the middle length contract; and 1965 and 1966 on the longest term contract.

The latter contract is the most popular with Georgia farmers. They placed 206,024 acres in this plan out of the total of 239,130.

Rental payments on the land will not be made until after January 1, 1958. Payments for the practices will be made as soon as the practices are completed.

Bradley pointed out that the conservation reserve program is a long term contractual obligation on the part of farmers to take land out of row crops and put it into conservation practices.

This differs from the "emergency" acreage reserve part of the program which operates from year to year on such crops as cotton, tobacco, wheat and corn.

"We Georgians have really taken to this soil conservation program," Bradley said. "The figures show that we are putting more than half as many acres in the long term plan as we did in the short term acreage reserve, which is a short term 'crash' program designed to take over-produced crops out of production on a year-to-year basis and naturally would command more acres. We are very pleased at Georgia farmers participation in the soil saving program."

UNEASY 'RETIREMENT'

Soil Bank Is 46 Per Cent Efficient

By OVID A. MARTIN

The controversial soil bank subsidy program shows an efficiency rate of about 46 per cent in the job of reducing the Nation's over-producing crop acreage.

The program was authorized by Congress last year with major provisions set to expire with 1959 crops. It directed the Agriculture Department to offer payments to farmers who planted less than their assigned allotments of cotton, wheat, corn, rice and tobacco.

With cropland producing more than could be sold at Government-supported prices, surpluses were piling up in the hands of the department. The objective of the soil bank was to help bring about a cut in farm production to a point where supplies balanced output.

Taking the crop acreage in 1955 as the base—that being the last year before the soil bank—the new measure will get a net reduction of about 13 million acres this year. In 1955 farmers harvested about 333 million acres of various crops; an estimated 320 million acres will be harvested this year.

Agreed to Retire Larger Acreage

But farmers had signed agreements to retire not 13 million, but 28 million acres from production. For doing this they were offered repayments averaging \$18 an acre for wheat, \$37 for corn, \$50 for cotton, \$64 for rice and \$220 for tobacco and lesser amounts for other crops. The Government's total obligation for this year is about \$700 million, or an average of about \$25 an acre for the idled land.

For every acre farmers took out of production under the soil bank, however, they added slightly more than one-half acre of other lands to the production of crops. This added land—much of it having been pastures, meadows and the like—was not put to the big surplus crops but to others. Thus from the standpoint of reducing the size of the farm plant, the Government is paying an average of about \$53 an acre.

Farmers cut this year's corn acreage about 7,241,000 acres or 9 per cent from 1955; wheat about 4,124,000 acres or 8.7 per cent; cotton about 2,124,000 acres or 18 per cent; rice about 478,000 acres or about 26 per cent, and tobacco about 366,000 acres or 24 per cent. But these decreases have been

offset in part by increases in a number of other crops not covered by the soil bank or by the production controls that govern wheat, corn, cotton, rice, peanuts and tobacco.

The increases include 3,030,000 acres or 16 per cent for soybeans; grain sorghums 4,805,000 acres or nearly 25 per cent; barley 400,000 acres or nearly 3 per cent; flaxseed 454,000 acres or about 9 per cent, and lesser amounts of acreages for a large number of minor crops.

Some Surpluses May Be Cut

Production estimates indicate there is a possibility that some headway may be made this year in reducing surpluses of cotton and wheat. But the corn oversupply situation may not be improved because of the prospective increase in production of competitive livestock feed grains, such as sorghum grains, oats and barley. There also is a possibility that an increase in soybean plantings may toss this crop into the surplus-troubled group.

The future of the soil bank will be determined by its accomplishments this year. On this both the administration and Congress are agreed.

But how will its failure or success be judged? If it is judged on this basis of the net over-all reduction in acreage, it faces trouble. If it is judged on the basis of production volume, the result might be a little different.

The department's latest production report forecasts over-all crop production this year at about 6.7 per cent below the record high volume produced in 1955, the last year prior to the soil bank. This indicated that with a 4 per cent drop in total harvested acreage, the production would be down 6.7 per cent.

Weather a Factor

But whether this production forecast will be borne out at harvest time is a question. The department attributed much of the prospective decline in volume to adverse weather this spring and early summer. In many important producing areas, excessive rains and floods hampered planting and progress of crops.

It is quite possible—as the report pointed out—for many of the crops to recover from the early setbacks.

Some improvement in pros-

pects is possible if favorable conditions predominate for growth, maturity and harvest," the report said. "Soil moisture has been abundant to excessive over much larger areas than last year. This abundance could cut later losses from drought and heat."

Should final figures of production show recovery and a volume close to the record output of 1955 and 1956, the soil bank's future might be dark indeed. With many Congress members insisting that the program show "results," crop production this year approaching last year's volume might well lead to elimination of the program after 1958.

Some advocates of the program have been talking of pressing for its extension beyond the 1959 crop year. They argue that it will need more time to bring about adjustment in farm supplies. They contend also that it will be needed longer as a device to help sustain farm income

(The Associated Press)

1b 1957

SOUTH CAROLINA

Farmer Who Believes In Experimenting Has Become Cotton And Hog Champion

Informant Sat. 3-2-57 Houston, Texas P. 16

A South Carolina farmer who believes in experimenting with his crops has become a champion cotton and hog grower of his county, reports E. N. Williams, State supervisor of Negro agricultural extension work.

The farmer is Henry Blanding of Manning, S. C. who started out as a tenant with only an ox and a pig 27 years ago. But he liked trying out new ways of doing things, says Mr Williams.

First, he and Mrs Blanding beat all of their neighbors to market with tomatoes by planting earlier and by making a large hotbed into which the young tomato plants could be transplanted and given a head start weeks before the usual time for setting them out in the field.

Returns from their tomatoes and from the sale of pigs from their original gilt enabled them to buy a pair of mules after three years and retire their ox from pulling the plow. Later, they bought 106 acres and a tractor.

With a farm of his own, Mr Blanding began more experimentation, the Extension Service supervisor points out. Years before most farmers ever heard of subsoiling, he began plowing deep in early December when most of his neighbors were out hunting. This method of plowing enables him to penetrate any possible hard-pan layer within 15 inches below the surface, and permit more water from winter rain and snow to be stored up for the crops, and it also helped prevent water from standing in the field, Mr Williams explains.

As a result, the Blandings' cotton yield increased sharply. And even during the past few years when dry weather drastically reduced yields in the area, they have harvested nearly as much cotton, corn, peanut and tobacco as usual.

In the State's annual five-acre cotton contest, the Blandings have

won top county and district awards. One year they produced 5,500 of lint cotton on their contest plot.

White and colored farmers from miles around visit them to get pointers on how they make such good crops. "More moisture and plant food, Mr Blanding advises. "In addition to breaking the ground deep, we apply fertilizer at the rate of up to 1,200 pounds per acre," he points out.

In describing his plowing method, Mr Blanding makes it clear that he plows deep only once a year. After that he barely scratches the surface, plowing his cotton and other crops just deep enough to get any weeds the hogs might miss.

And turning hogs in on the cotton and letting them graze the weeds and grass is another of his experiments. It has worked, time about in half.

Still another experiment that some of his neighbors have been trying is the method he uses to get his nine children to work long and hard at growing cotton.

Years ago, when his first child was old enough to help in the field, Mr and Mrs Blanding gave him an acre all his own with the understanding that the earnings from the cotton would go into his own account at the bank toward his education. The same plan has been worked out with all the other children. And there is never any trouble getting them to plow and chop and pick. Up to now, they have finished college, and most of the others are on their way.

At present, Mr Blanding is experimenting with feeds for beef cattle and for the 175 to 200 hogs he raises for market every year. "I mix my own supplement out of beans, and fish meal. I am trying to find out which is best for sows and which is best for growing pigs," says Mr Blanding.

Within a few years, Mr Blanding plans to devote his full time to livestock, while one of his sons



Afro-American Sat. 1-26-57 Baltimore Md. P. 16

FARM PLANNING FOR THE YEAR is being done by Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Howard of New Zion, S.C., and their children and grandchildren who are home. An extension service home agent is sitting in on the conference. From left are Clashis Howard, a grand-

son; Willis Howard, Willa Mae Howard, a granddaughter; Mr. Howard, Mrs. Howard, Miss Queenie Smith, home agent; and Elizabeth Howard. During other planning sessions County Agent Eugene Gerald will sit in with the family.

'Made it by cutting corners,' says successful S.C. farmer

Afro-American Sat. 1-26-57 P. 16 Baltimore Md.

"We made it by cutting corners," says Eugene Howard, a successful farmer of New Zion, S. C., who built his own modern home himself and who never misses a chance to save a dollar by making things instead of buying them.

His most recent savings totaling \$220 were made last year when he built four self-feeders for the 70 to 90 head of hogs

he raises every year. Material for each feeder cost him only \$30, compared with \$85 a piece for store bought feeders.

AND INSTEAD of buying his supplemental swine feed already mixed at a cost of \$5.50 per 100 pounds, Mr. Howard says he buys the fish meal and other components and mixes them himself with his own corn which he has ground

He estimates that this saves him about \$4 per 100 pounds on his supplement. One of his next goals is to buy a feed grinder.

Two years ago when the house needed painting and Mr. Howard and the boys were busy in the field, Mrs. Howard and two of the girls got out the ladders and did the job themselves, painting their attractive

seven-room home inside and outside.

And, of course, the Howards seldom think of going to the grocery store, expect to sell something out of their orchard and half acre garden. They grow these mainly, however, to meet their home needs.

ONE YEAR Mrs. Howard put up 1,100 jars of fruits, vegetables and meats for the family.

"It has been cutting corners such as these," says Mr. Howard, "that has enabled me and my wife to rear 11 children, pay for our 98-acre farm and buy a tractor and a combine and two milk cows."

Mr. and Mrs. Howard started out as sharecroppers in the late



DEEP PLOWING at the time his cropland is broken each year is what Henry Blanding, left, of Manning, S C, believes in. He is showing three Extension Service officials the depth at which he sets the plows on his two-row tractor attachment when he breaks ground for his cotton, corn, and tobacco. Mr Blanding says deep plowing cuts through hardpan

1920s. Within a year, they were cash renters and by 1939 they had saved up enough to make the down payment on a farm of their own.

The next year, however, when it seemed as though they might slip back down to tenant farming, they had their farm refinanced through the Farmers Home Administration of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

And although they had 40 years in which to repay the government, they paid out in six, and then set about building a modern home with a bathroom and hot and cold running water.

Mr. Howard and the boys did just about all the work themselves.

"WE OWE a large part of our success to County Agent William Thompson who retired last year and to the Farmers Home supervisor," says Mr. Howard. "They showed us how to plan and how to cut costs and they encouraged us to grow something besides cotton and tobacco."

Today, the Howards are raising a wide variety of cash crops, including soybeans and hogs that fatten in pastures of pearl millet and sweet Sudan-grass. And returns from the sales of hogs are now almost as large as those from cotton and tobacco.

areas, enabling the soil to store up more water during the winter months. The Extension officials, left to right, are E N Williams, State supervisor; George W Dean, county agent at large; and Waymon Johnson, State 4-H club agent. They gave Mr Blanding some additional pointers on soil preparation during their visit. USDA Photo.

S.C. Farm Agent Retires

Journal & Guide Norfolk, Va.

After 39 Years Service

Sat. 12-14-57
COLUMBIA, S. C. — A South Carolina county agent, who helped the people to hold on to their land, farm it more efficiently, and market their products through their own cooperative, retired last week after 39 years of service.

The retired agent is Benjamin B. Barnwell of Beaufort County who spent most of his professional career on the islands of his home county helping farm people to grow better tomatoes and other vegetables and crops.

DURING THE 1930's when money was scarce and some of the farmers were hard pressed Mr. Barnwell helped the people to organize a credit union. Out of it grew several farm machinery cooperatives, a marketing cooperative, and a co-op store on St. Helena Island which sells groceries, farm supplies and equipment, and quick meals to busy farm people grading and packing tomatoes and other vegetables in their co-op warehouse. Some years the marketing co-op sells as much as 200,000 worth of tomatoes.

The success of this enterprise has encouraged the farmers to hold on to their land. "Our people are wedded to the land," says Mr. Barnwell, "they seldom if ever sell any of it." He estimates that over 900 Negro farmers own parcels of land in the county.

AS A BOY, Mr. Barnwell saw his parents and other farmers struggling against insects and plant diseases in an effort to raise cotton and a few vegetables in his tidewater county. He longed for a better day for the people. One fall day nearly 50 years ago, he sold a calf his father had given him and set out for Hampton Institute in the tidewaters of Virginia. He worked his way through Hampton in five years and returned home to help bring a new day to Beaufort County.



FARM PLANNING for the year is being done by Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Howard of New Zion, S. C., and their children and grandchildren who

are home. An extension service home agent is sitting in on the conference. Left to right are: Clashis Howard, a grand-

son; Willis Howard, Willis Mae Howard, a granddaughter; Howard, Mrs. Howard, Miss Quennie Smith, home

agent, and Elizabeth Howard. During other planning sessions, County Agent Eugene Gerald will sit in with the family.

Save \$220 On Hog Feeders
Depender Chicago, Ill.
Sat. 1-19-57 P. 7

WASHINGTON — "We made it by cutting corners," says Eugene Howard, a successful farmer of New Zion, S. C., who built his own modern home and who never misses a chance to save a dollar by making things instead of buying them.

His most recent savings totaling \$220 were made last year when he built four self-feeders for the 70 to 90 head of hogs he raises every year. Material for each feeder cost him only \$30, compared with \$85 apiece for store-bought feeders.

And instead of buying his supplemental swine feed already mixed at a cost of \$5.50 per 100 pounds, Howard says he buys the fish meal and other components and mixes them himself with his own corn which he has ground in town. He estimates that this saves

him about \$4 per 100 pounds on his supplement. One of his next goals is to buy a feed grinder. Two years ago when the house needed painting and Mr. Howard and the boys were busy in the field, Mrs. Howard and two of the girls got out the ladders and did the job themselves, painting their attractive seven-room home inside and outside.

And, of course, the Howards seldom think of going to the grocery store, except to sell something out of their orchard and half-acre garden. They grow these mainly, however, to meet their home needs. One year Mrs. Howard put up 1,100 jars of fruits, vegetables, and meats for the family.

"It has been cutting corners such as these," says Howard, "that has enabled me and my wife to rear 11 children, pay for our 98-acre farm, and buy a tractor

and a combine and two milk cows."

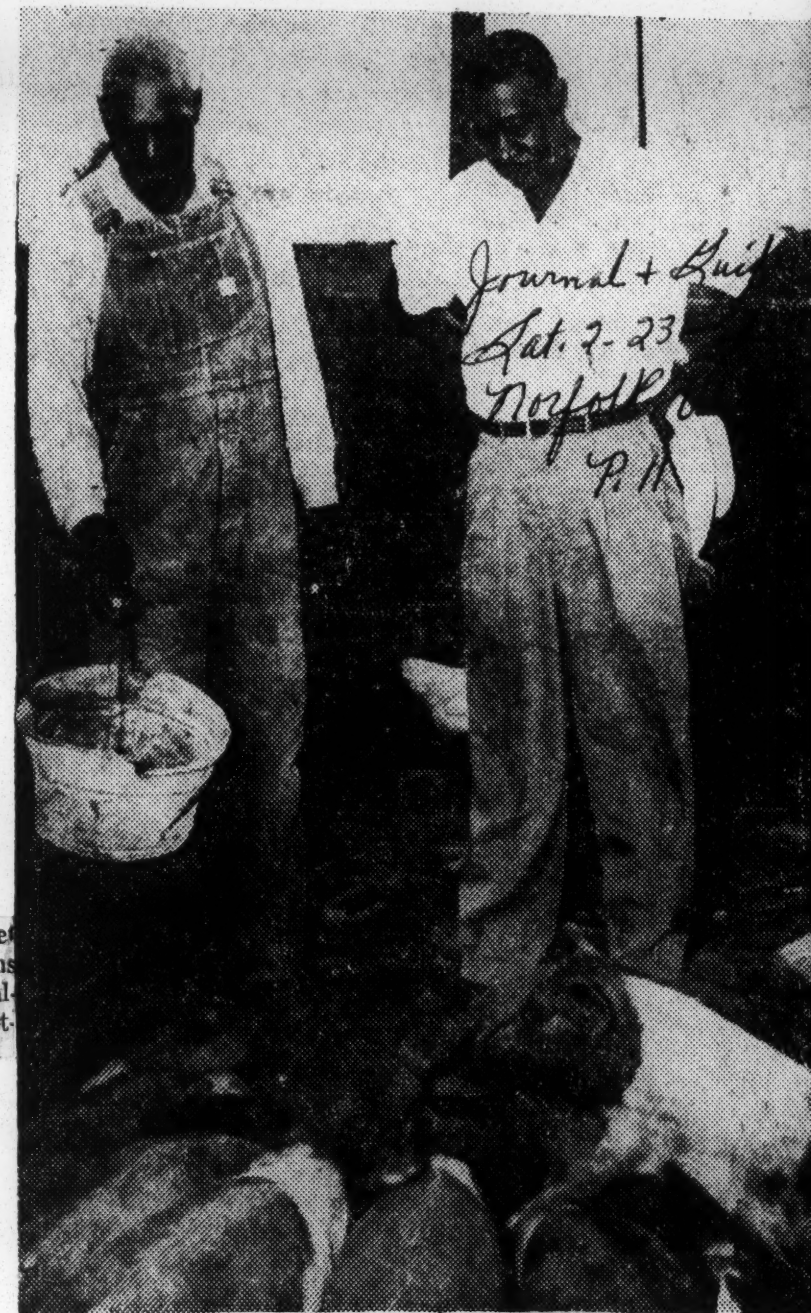
Mr. and Mrs. Howard started out as sharecroppers in the late 1920's. Within a year, they were cash renters; and by 1939, they had saved up enough to make the down-payment on a farm of their own.

The next year, however, when it seemed as though they might slip back down to tenant farming, they had their farm refinanced through the Farmers Home Administration of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. And although they had 40 years in which to repay the government, they paid out in six, and then set about building a modern home with a bathroom and hot and cold running water. Howard and the boys did just about all the work themselves.

"We owe a large part of our success to County Agent William Thompson who retired last year, and to the Farmers Home supervisor," says Howard. "They showed up how to plan and how to cut costs, and they encouraged us to grow something besides cotton and tobacco."

Today, the Howards are raising a wide variety of cash crops, including soybeans and hogs that

fatten in pastures of pearl millet and sweet Sudangrass. And returns from the sale of hogs are now almost as large as those from cotton and tobacco.



Show Others His Skill

Henry Blanding of Manning, S. C., has become champion farmer of the county. In the top photo, Blanding, far left, shows three S. C. Extension service officials how he sets the plow on his tractor attachment for deep plowing. In the bottom photo, he shows County Agent George W. Dean, right, part of the 200 hogs a year he raises. In addition to bringing him a gross return of about \$6,000, the hogs also keep weeds and grass out of his cotton, and cut chopping time nearly in half.

Becomes Champion In South Carolina

Farmer Starts With Only An Ox; Now Grosses Over \$6,000 A Year

Special To Journal and Guide

MANNING, S. C.—A South Carolina farmer who believes in experimenting with his crops has become a champion cotton and hog grower of his county.

The farmer is Henry Blanding of Manning, S. C., who started out as a tenant with only an ox and a pig 27 years ago. But he liked trying out new ways of doing things.

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White and colored farmers from miles around visit them to get pointers on how they make such good crops. "More moisture and plant food," Mr. Blanding advises. "In addition to breaking the ground deep, we apply fertilizer at the rate of up to 1,200 pounds per acre," he points out.

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WITH A FARM of his own, Mr. Blanding began more experimentation. Years before

most farmers ever heard of sub-soiling, he began plowing first in early December when most of his neighbors were out hunting. This method of plowing enables him to penetrate any possible hardpan from the cotton would go into layer within 15 inches below the surface, and permit more water from winter rain and snow to be stored up for the crops, and it also helped prevent water from standing in the field.

As a result, the Blandings' cotton yield increased sharply. And even during the past few years when dry weather drastically reduced yields in the area, they have harvested nearly as much cotton, corn, peanuts, and tobacco as usual.

peanuts, soybeans, velvet beans, and fish meal. I am trying various combinations, trying to find out which is best for sows and which is best for pigs," says Mr. Blanding. Within a few years, Mr. Blanding plans to devote his full time to livestock, while one of his sons takes over the cotton and tobacco and other field crops.



1b 1957

SOUTH CAROLINA

Helped Farmers To Keep Land

BENJAMIN BARNWELL

WASHINGTON—A South Carolina county agent, who helped the people to hold on to their land, farm it more efficiently, and market their products through their own cooperative, retired last week after 39 years of service, reports E. N. Williams, state supervisor of extension work.

The retired agent is Benjamin B. Barnwell of Beaufort County, who spent most of his professional career on the islands of his home county helping farm people to grow better tomatoes and other vegetables and crops.

During the 1930s when money was scarce and some of the farmers were hard pressed, Barnwell helped the people to organize a credit union.

Out of it grew several farm machinery cooperatives, a marketing cooperative, and a co-op store on St. Helena Island which sells groceries, farm supplies and equipment, and quick meals to busy farm people grading and packing tomatoes and other vegetables in their co-op warehouse.

Some years the marketing co-op sells as much as \$200,000 worth of tomatoes.

The success of this enterprise has encouraged the farmers to hold on to their land. "Our people are wedded to the land," says Barnwell, "they seldom if ever sell any of it." He estimates that over 900 farmers own parcels of land in the county.

As a boy, Barnwell saw his parents and other farmers struggling against insects and plant diseases in an effort to raise cotton and a few vegetables in his tidewater county. He longed for a better day for the people.

One fall day nearly 50 years ago, he sold a calf his father had given him and set out for Hampton Institute in the tidewaters of Virginia. He worked his way through

Hampton in five years and returned home to help bring a new day to Beaufort county.

Friends In Beaufort Honor Retired Negro Farm Agent

BEAUFORT, Dec. 15 (Special)

A testimonial gathering of the many friends he has helped in farming, met yesterday at St. Helena Island School to honor Benjamin B. Barnwell, for 39 years Negro farm agent in this county, now retired.

From primitive subsistence farming when Barnwell took over, today's Negro farmers, even individually or (or cooperatively) and operate the most up-to-date farm machinery, make extra farm crop money through sales, and a few are full time farmers, one at least having an income in five figures.

Barnwell was given credit for much of the local improvement in Negro farming.

J. P. King of the Negro cooperative store at Frogmore presided.

Three-minute tributes were given by seven Negro leaders from the various parts of the county; fifty 4-H girls and boys in distinctive uniforms sang a song; other musical offerings were made by the Robert Smalls High School band, and the St. Helena School choir.

Principal J. N. Francis of the St. Helena schools presented agent Barnwell and his wife with a silver service and individual gifts.

The Barnwells have four sons, three in or already graduated from college, and one in the Air Force; and a daughter, a postgraduate of Syracuse University and now a vocational guidance secretary in the Urban League at Detroit, Mich.

Barnwell is a graduate of Hampton College, Va.

TENNESSEE

urer Clifton Satterfield showed the sponsors had received \$11,537.14 while spending \$10,952.15. If \$25.01 owed to the group is collected, the surplus will total \$1,510, he said.

Surpluses Are Rare

Surpluses like this are rare in the Jubilee's 21-year-old history, Dr. Venson said. "We sometimes have a hard time breaking even," he said.

The program this year included three parades, selection of royalty to preside over different phases of the celebration and a round of dances. Seventeen high school and college bands, five from out of the city, took part.

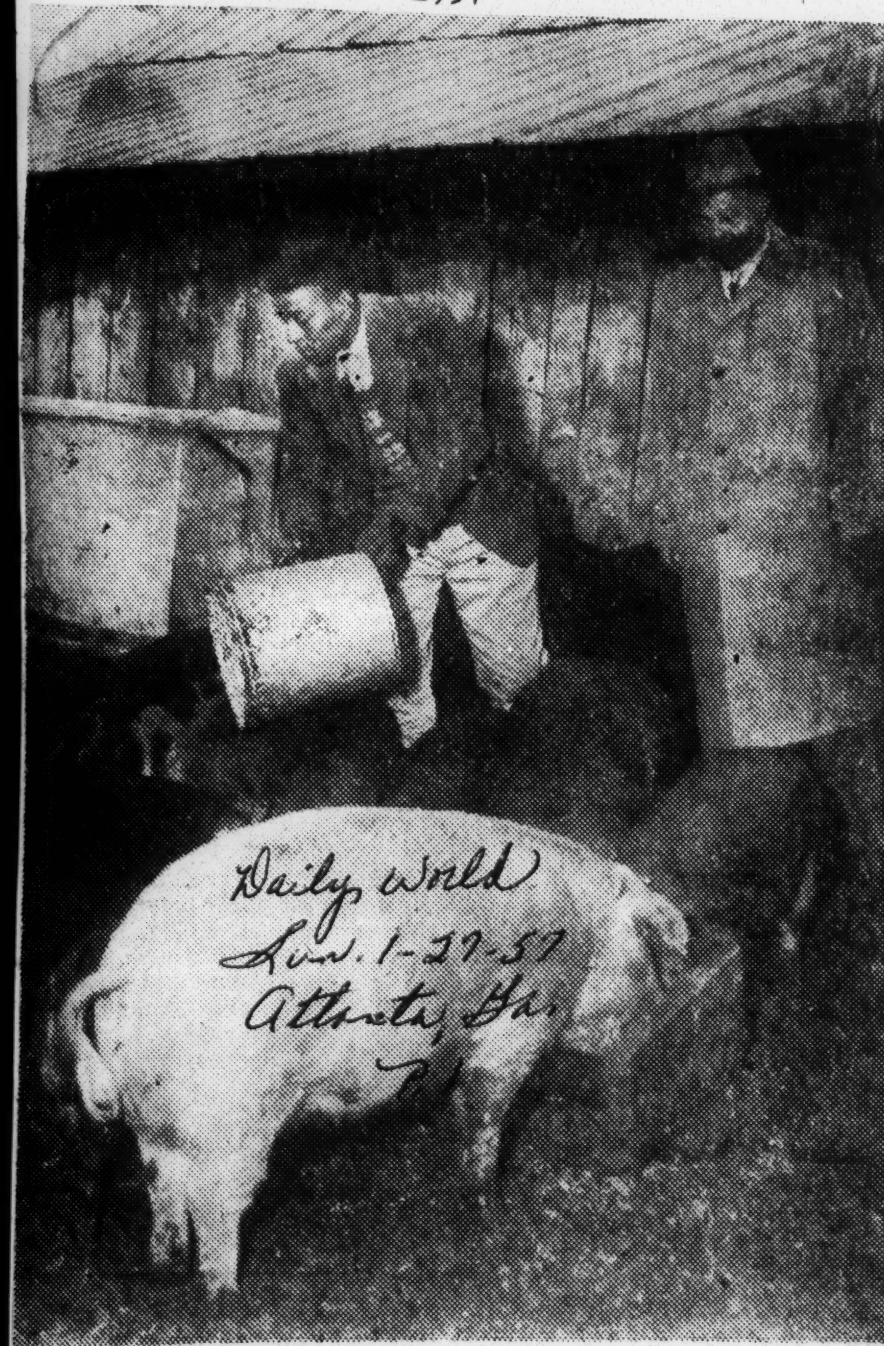
Money to cover expenses came from profits at the Beale Park midway, sale of grandstand seats for parades and sale of votes in the queen's contest.

'Tribute To Cotton'

Dr. Venson thinks the success shows more than a mere interest by the Negro community in funmaking.

"The Jubilee, like the Memphis Cotton Carnival, is a tribute to cotton," he said. "The Negro population of Memphis is beginning to realize that if cotton doesn't do all right, then they don't do all right."

"For years Negroes hadn't shown much appreciation for celebrations of this type, because, to them, cotton is associated with the old slavery days," said Dr. Venson, whose father was a pre-Civil War slave in Louisiana. "This attitude is being overcome and the Negro is starting to think of cotton as a stepping stone to better things instead of a stumbling block," he said.



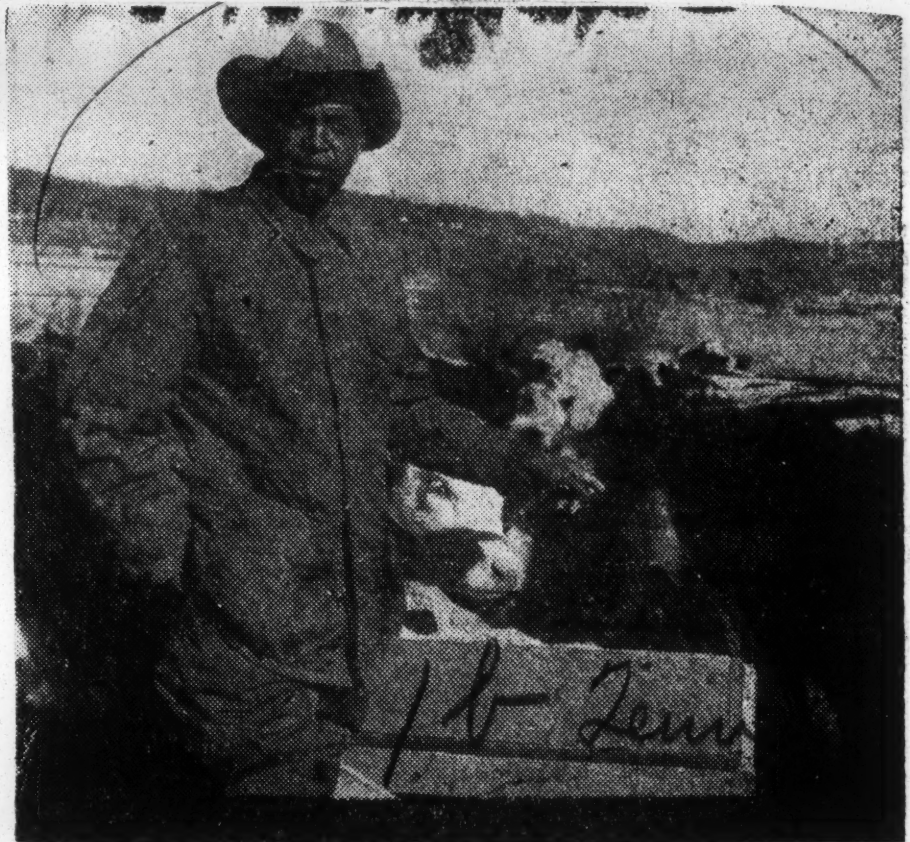
HOGS ARE BEING FED cooked garbage by Albert Gray of the Nashville, Tenn., area, while his county agent, Arthur D. Brown, right, looks on. Cooked garbage is safe from the swine disease known as vesicular exanthema which was prevalent a few years ago. Mr. Gray feeds his hogs grain in addition to the cooked garbage. — (USDA Photo)

Cotton Jubilee For Negroes Is Termed Financial Success

The Memphis Cotton Jubilee for Negroes, already pronounced a fun hit, went into the books yesterday as a financial success. Backers of the Beale Street counterpart of the Memphis Cotton Carnival reported an expected \$1,510 surplus after paying expenses of the May 13-18 celebration.

Dr. R. Q. Venson, board chairman of the Memphis Cotton Makers, Inc., sponsor, said the excess funds will be "money in the bank" when the group starts making plans for next year's Jubilee.

A report by Secretary-Treas-



DR. DAVIS RELAXES ON HIS CATTLE RANCH — Dr. W. S. Davis, president, Tennessee A&I State University, finds the many activities of his recently acquired cattle ranch excellent for keeping physically and mentally fit for his hard job as university president. Therefore, he spends such spare time as a university president can squeeze into a very busy schedule doing farm chores in addition to hunting and fishing. His farm and adjacent TVA waters afford excellent hunting and fishing.

In the above picture Dr. Davis relaxes at his 240-acre cattle ranch and points to his herd of pure bred Hereford cattle, which he had just finished feeding. He will expand his herd to 100 breeding cows. The 240 acres include 100 acres of pasture, 75 acres of forestry, and 65 additional acres that can be used for grain or for feeding and protecting wildlife.

The ranch was named "River Acres" in keeping with its location on the Cumberland River section of the TVA. The ranch also overlooks the Cheatham Dam and electrical plant. The giant lake can be seen in the background of the above picture.

Dr. Davis was born and reared on a Mississippi plantation which he and his family still own and operate. He holds the Ph.D. in agriculture from Cornell University, therefore, one can understand what he means when he says "the acquisition of my new cattle ranch was the coming true of a dream of long standing."

Former Tenant Who Borrowed Money To Get a Start Now Grosses \$10,000 A Year Off Hogs and Cattle

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — A former tenant farmer, who had to borrow the money to make the down payment on a farm of his own, is now grossing more than \$10,000 a year raising hogs and beef cattle, reports W. H. Williamson, assistant state agent of the Tennessee Extension Service.

The farmer is Albert Gray of the Nashville area who some years sells as many as 300 hogs raised mostly on cooked garbage, and 15 to 20 calves and a few steers raised in his pastures of orchard grass, fescue, lespedeza, and ladino clover which his county agent, Arthur Brown, helped him to develop.

Three years ago, Mr. and Mrs. Gray and their four children were selected the first place family in their county's Better Living contest. Over a seven-year period, they had converted a run-down, eroded farm and a shabby dwelling into a modern farm with the home renovated and the gullies terraced and seeded to grasses.

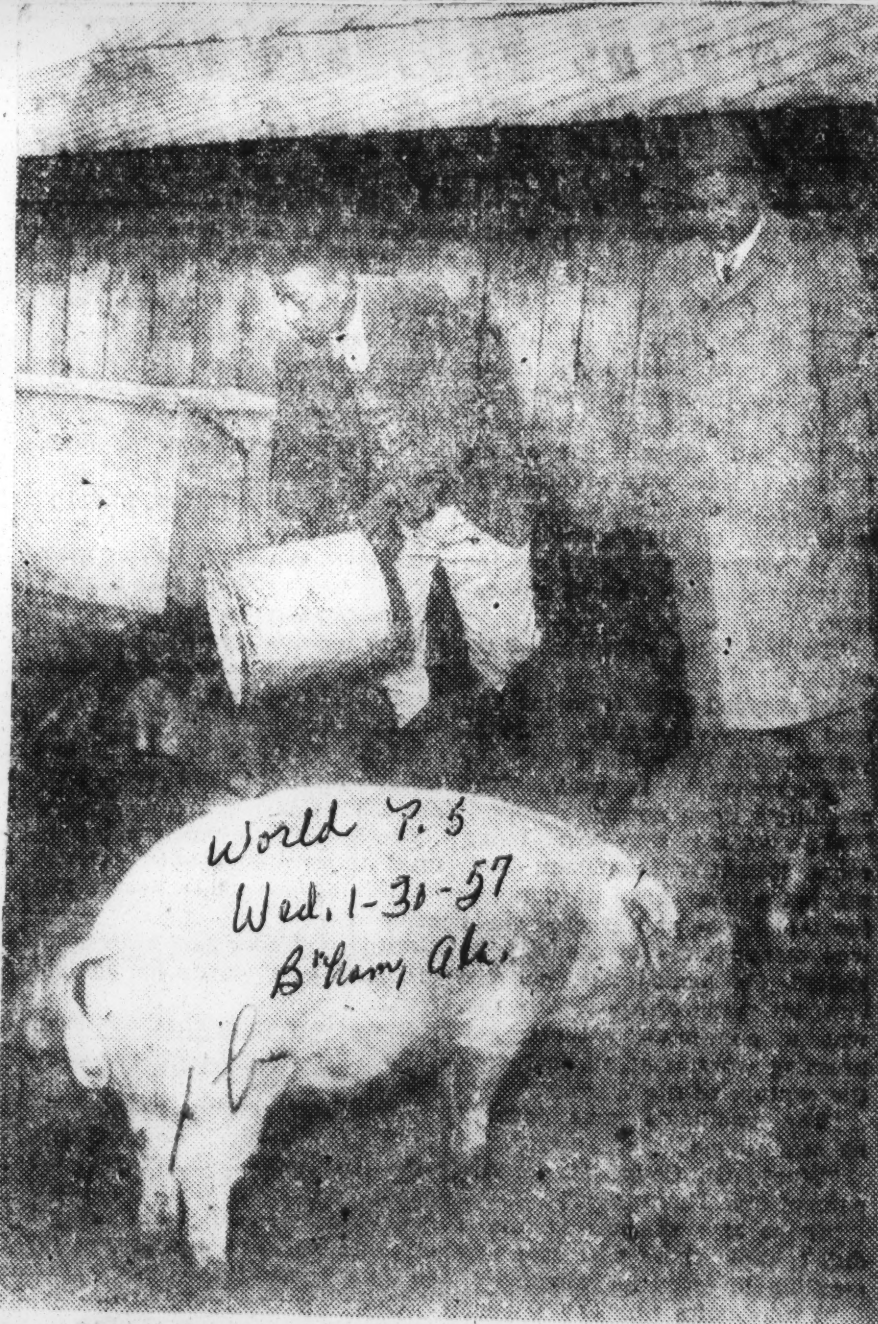
Modern Ranch House

Mr. Williamson says their home is now an attractive six-room ranchhouse with knotty pine paneled office and den, bathroom with hot and cold running water, and kitchen with a gleaming white electric range. And throughout the house, the furniture has been refinished and reupholstered. Mr. Williamson points out that the Grays did all of the work themselves, including the renovation of their home.

Mr. and Mrs. Gray started buying their 98-acre farm in 1947. Before that, Mr. Gray was a tenant farmer and later an employe at the Nashville garbage disposal plant. In the latter post, he noticed a number of farmers collecting garbage for their hogs. It gave him an idea.

"Why couldn't he buy a farm and raise hogs on garbage like some of the other farmers were doing?" he asked himself. One big thing stood in the way—lack of money for a down-payment.

But the more Mr. Gray thought of the idea, and the more he talked it over with Mrs. Gray, the more practical it seemed to him. Finally one day they got out their bank book, which showed small regular savings totaling less than \$200, and went to the loan department of their bank and talked their proposal over. They got a favorable reply: "Find a farm you think



HOGS ARE BEING FED cooked garbage by Albert Gray of the Nashville, Tenn., area, while his county agent, Arthur D. Brown, right, looks on. Cooked garbage is safe from the swine disease known as vesicular exanthema which was prevalent a few years ago. Mr. Gray feeds his hogs grain in addition to the cooked garbage. — (USDA Photo)

you would like to buy and then ment. come back."

Saw Suitable Place

After weeks, the Grays found 98 ill-used acres and a ramshackle house for sale in the Haynes community, a few miles outside Nashville. They saw the possibilities of making it into just the kind of place they wanted. So they went back to their bank and borrowed the money to make the down-pay-

Within a year, Mr. Gray had bought a truck and had a route hauling away garbage for families and business places that needed the service. He carried the best of the garbage home to his hogs, and took the rest to the disposal plant.

By 1953, the Grays had paid for their farm, remodeled their home, bought a tractor, and another truck, and had two hired workers

hauling garbage for them. Today, they are providing garbage disposal service for eight large cafes and 1,300 families.

When vesicular exanthema broke out among garbage-fed hogs a few years ago and the U. S. Department of Agriculture recommended that all garbage be cooked before feeding it to hogs, Mr. Gray was one of the first farmers in Tennessee to have a cooker built. The disease, which has now subsided, never struck his hogs.

Today, the Grays are placing increased emphasis on improving the quality of hogs and in developing more improved pastures. Already they have five purebred Duroc sows, and a year from now, they hope to be producing 400 high quality hogs a year.



DOUBLE WINNERS — Mr. and Mrs. Joe W. Harley of Route 1, Broseley, Butler County, won two prizes in the Negro Division of Plant To Prosper, placing first in home improvement and third in the landowner class. Owners of an 80-acre

cotton, soybean and sweet potato farm, they inspect a power arrangement with Mrs. Magnolia P. Wesson, home demonstration agent, and their grandson, Donald Harley.

Buy 240 Acres in Tennessee

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Dr. W. S. Davis, a specialist in agriculture and president of Tennessee A. and M. State University here, has seen another of his dreams come true.

He has just acquired 240 acres of land overlooking both the Cumberland Lake and Cumberland River and is turning it into a cattle ranch.

"This is something I've always wanted," said Dr. Davis. "I want to develop it into a big ranch and come here to live when I retire."

The scenic site also has caught the eyes of Dr. Davis' charming wife, a public school principal here. She is going to build a ranch-style house at the highest point of the land which looks down upon the lake and river.

PRESIDENT DAVIS' main

interests are cattle and a model barn. Building a house on the new site hadn't crossed his mind. "I want 100 head of cattle and a shining new barn. My wife will be responsible for the house."

The Davises have named their cattle ranch "River View Acres." The main area is a sloping hill, overlooking the water, and it is flanked by valleys of woodland and pastures.

"River View Acres" is just the spot for hunting and fishing. It has a riverfront of one mile and should be a haven for Dr. Davis' fishermen friends. For his friends who like to hunt, they should have no trouble scaring up a red fox, wild ducks, quail, deer and pheasant.

Dr. Davis already has 28 pure-bred Hereford white-faced cows on the ranch and hopes to expand his breeding herd to 100.

The acre ranch is located

about 30 miles northwest of the university campus.

THE RANCH includes 100 acres of pasture, 75 acres of forestry, and 65 additional acres that can be used either for grain, pasture or for feeding and protecting wild life.

Dr. Davis was born and reared on a Mississippi plantation which he and his family still own and operate. He holds the Ph.D. in agriculture from Cornell University. Therefore, one understands what he means when he says: "The acquisition of my new cattle ranch was the coming true of a dream of long standing."

TENNESSEE

NEGRO P TO P RALLY SET NEXT THURSDAY

**650 County Winners, Others
From Four States Will
Attend Program**

By **WALTER DURHAM**
Director, Plant To Prosper Bureau

With some 650 county winners and their families, agricultural, educational and business leaders and representatives of the Negro press from four states expected, the 20th annual Negro Division Plant To Prosper Rally will be held at Booker T. Washington High School Thursday.

The program, starting at 10, is sponsored by The Commercial Appeal and the Memphis Chamber of Commerce in co-operation with the Agricultural Extension Services and the Farmers Home Administration of Arkansas, Mississippi, Missouri and Tennessee.

\$1,885 In Prizes

The event will honor farm families who have done outstanding jobs this year in efficient farming and homemaking and who have participated in community affairs.

Highlight of the day's program will be the presentation of \$1,885 in state and sweepstakes prizes. The top award will be \$350 to the best landowner winner of the four states. The top tenant winner will receive \$250, and the family scoring highest in home improvement will get a \$50 sweepstakes prize.

P. H. Stone to Speak

Principal speaker will be P. H. Stone, assistant to the administrator of the Federal Extension Service. He will be presented by Prof. Blair T. Hunt, principal of Booker T. Washington High.

Guests will be welcomed by Gordon Hanna, managing editor of The Commercial Appeal, and W. H. Williamson, Tennessee state extension agent in charge of Negro work.

The landowner sweepstakes prize will be presented by Ray Strong, president of the Memphis Agricultural Club, while Prof. R. J. Roddy, manager of the Tri-State Fair, will award

the tenant sweepstakes prize. Walter Durham will give the state awards and the home improvement sweepstakes prize on behalf of The Commercial Appeal.

Barbecue and Trimmings

The meeting will be called to order by Ernest Brazzle, Shelby County Negro extension agent. John Gammon Jr., of Marion, president of the Negro section of the Arkansas Farm Bureau and a former grand sweepstakes champion in the Plant To Prosper Contest, will preside.

Climaxing the program will be an old-fashioned Southern barbecue dinner with all the trimmings.

Also On Program

Others on the program include D. F. Martinez, president of Johnson Memorial College, Batesville, Miss.; Mrs. Imogene Hill, vocalist; T. R. Betton Jr., trumpet soloist; Miss Bessie L. Walton, Tennessee assistant home demonstration agent in Negro work; T. R. Betton, Arkansas Negro agricultural agent; W. E. Ammons, Mississippi state leader in men's extension work, and Miss Ella Stackhouse, Negro home demonstration agent for Pemiscot and Dunklin Counties, Missouri.

Music for the program will be provided by the Booker T. Washington Band, Mount Pisgah High School, Shelby County Training School and Arkansas High School of Caruthersville, Mo.

**CHAMPION FARMERS
GATHER WEDNESDAY
FOR P TO P RALLY**

**Memphis Tenn.
24th Annual Forum To Hear
New York Journalist,**

**U.S. Official
PRIZES TO BE ANNOUNCED**

**Agriculture Undersecretary
Morse, Editor Catledge
Will Be Heard By 750 At
Auditorium**

By **WALTER DURHAM**
Director, Plant To Prosper Bureau

One of the nation's highest ranking agricultural leaders and one of its top-flight journalists will be speakers at The Commercial Appeal's 24th annual Mid-South Farm Forum and Plant To Prosper Rally, opening at Ellis Auditorium at 10 Wednesday.

Speakers will be Undersecretary of Agriculture True D. Morse, second in authority in the United States Department of Agriculture, and Turner Catledge, managing editor of the New York Times, world traveler and friend of world leaders.

They will be heard by an audience of some 750 farm people, agricultural workers and business leaders of Arkansas, Mississippi, Missouri and Tennessee.

Recorded for Broadcast

Mr. Catledge's address at 11:30 and his presentation by Frank Ahlgren, editor of The Commercial Appeal, also will be seen and heard on WMCT, The Commercial Appeal's television station, and heard over a South-wide radio network.

Mr. Morse's speech will be recorded by WMC for a later network broadcast.

The forum will be part of an all-day program honoring county, state and sweepstakes winners in the Plant To Prosper program that enrolled some 40,000 white families this year.

Other events on the day's agenda include the Plant To Prosper Luncheon at the King Cotton at 12:30 and the Award Dinner at the Peabody at 6:15.

Immediately after the luncheon, John W. Oakley, executive secretary of the Mississippi Seed Improvement Association, will show a color film, "The Good Harvest."

Began On Weekly

Managing editor of the New York Times since 1951, Mr. Catledge first began to attract attention as a newspaperman in 1924 while serving as a reporter for The Commercial Appeal. He has been with the Times since 1929, except for 17 months when he was successively roving correspondent and editor-in-chief of the Chicago Sun.

Born in Ackerman, Miss., he grew up in Philadelphia, Miss., where he began his newspaper career on a hand-set country weekly, the Neshoba Democrat. After receiving his bachelor of

science degree from Mississippi State College in 1922, Mr. Catledge ran a country weekly, the Tunica, Miss., Times, and served as managing editor of the Tupelo, Miss., Journal, before joining the staff of The Commercial Appeal.

He remained in Memphis until 1927, when he joined the staff of the Baltimore Sun. He moved to the New York Times two years later.

He first served the Times on its city staff and then was transferred to its Washington bureau where he covered the Capitol, the White House and the Supreme Court.

National Correspondent

As a capital correspondent, Mr. Catledge got to know much of the United States and many of its leaders. On special assignments all over the world, he got to know foreign peoples and their leaders. He recently returned from an extended European tour.

Mr. Morse assists Agricultural Secretary Ezra Taft Benson in the general direction of all USDA programs and acts for him in his absence.

As president of the Commodity Credit Corporation, he heads the multi-billion dollar Government agency responsible for the direct price support programs and related activities in the USDA.

A member of President Eisenhower's Advisory Board of Economic Growth and Stability, Mr. Morse headed the United States delegation that negotiated the International Wheat Agreement and the International Sugar Agreement.

Highlight Of Day

Prior to his appointment to his present position in 1953, he had been in farm management and the agricultural service business for 26 years.

As president of Doane Agricultural Service of St. Louis, his work has taken him to every state in the Union and into all parts of Canada.

Mr. Morse will be presented by Darryl Francis, chairman of the Memphis Chamber of Commerce agricultural committee, who also will preside at the forum.

A highlight of the day's program will be the dinner at the Peabody, at which prizes totaling \$3,225 will be awarded to contestants who made the best Plant To Prosper records this year.

W. C. Teague, editorial writer for The Commercial Appeal, will be master of ceremonies.

Presentation of the \$500 sweep-



Feeding Time—The president of Tennessee A. and I. University, Dr. W. S. Davis, takes time out to feed his 28 head of pure-bred white-faced Hereford cattle on his newly acquired

240-acre ranch overlooking the Cumberland Lake. This is a dream come true for Dr. Davis and he hopes to increase his herd to 100 breeding cows.

stakes prize to the champion landowner of the four states will be made by Mr. Ahlgren, while R. A. Trippeer, president of the Memphis C. of C., will present the \$500 tenant sweepstakes award.

W. Frank Aycock, business manager of Memphis Publishing Co., will present \$200 in prizes to Home Improvement Division winners.

State cash prizes to first, second and third place winners in

the Landowner and Tenant Divisions will be presented by M.

J. Mills, Arkansas state director of the Farmers Home Administration; M. S. Shaw, associate director of the Mississippi Agricultural Extension Service; H. T. Short, Tennessee district extension agent, and B. W. Harrison, Missouri state extension agent.

Gordon Hanna, managing editor of The Commercial Appeal, will present plaques to four newspaper editors who have given Plant To Prosper the best co-operation this year.

City Editor Malcolm Adams will present a trophy to a radio station which has rendered outstanding service, and St. John Waddell, assistant managing editor, will present trophies to the agricultural workers who produced the sweepstakes champions.

Parlays \$200 Into \$10,000 Farm Income

Ex-Tenant Sells Hogs, Cattle

Defender Chicago, Ill.
See 2-2-37
WASHINGTON — A former tenant farmer, who had to borrow the money to make the down payment on a farm of his own, is now grossing more than \$10,000 a year raising hogs and beef cattle, reports W. H. Williamson, assistant state agent of the Tennessee Extension Service.

The farmer is Albert Gray of the Nashville area who some years sells as many as 300 hogs raised mostly on cooked garbage, and 15 to 20 calves and a few steers raised in his pastures of orchard grass, fescue, lespedeza, and ladino clover which his county agent, Arthur Brown, helped him to develop.

Three years ago, Mr. and Mrs. Gray and their four children selected the first place family in their county's Better Living Contest. Over a seven-year period, they had converted a run-down, eroded farm and a shabby dwelling into a modern farm with the home renovated and the gullies terraced and seeded to grasses.

Williamson says their home is now an attractive six-room ranch-house with knotty-pine paneled office and den, bathroom with hot and cold running water, and kitchen with a gleaming white electric range. And throughout the house, the furniture has been refinished and reupholstered. Williamson points out that the Grays did all of the work themselves, including the renovation of their home.

Mr. and Mrs. Gray started buying their 98-acre farm in 1947. Before that, Gray was a tenant farmer and later an employee at the Nashville garbage disposal plant. In the latter post, he noticed

When vesicular exanthema broke out among garbage-fed hogs a few years ago, and the U. S. Department of Agriculture recommended that all garbage be cooked before feeding it to hogs, Gray was one of the first farmers in Tennessee to have a cooker built. The disease, which has now subsided, never struck his hogs.

Today, the Grays are placing increased emphasis on improving the quality of hogs and in developing more improved pastures. Already they have five purebred Duroc sows, and a year from now, they hope to be producing 400 high quality hogs a year.

a number of farmers collecting garbage for their hogs. It gave him an idea.

"Why couldn't he buy a farm and raise hogs on garbage like some of the other farmers were doing?" he asked himself. One big thing stood in the way — lack of money for a down-payment.

But the more Gray thought of the idea, and the more he talked it over with Mrs. Gray, the more practical it seemed to him. Finally one day they got out their bankbook, which showed small regular savings totaling less than \$200, and went to the loans department of their bank and talked their proposal over. They got a favorable reply: "Find a farm you think you would like to buy and then come back."

After weeks, the Grays found 98 ill-used acres and a ramshackle house for sale in the Haynes Community, a few miles outside Nashville. They saw the possibilities of making it into just the kind of place they wanted. So they went back to their bank and borrowed the money to make the down-payment.

Within a year, Gray had bought a truck and had a route hauling away garbage for families and business places that needed the service. He carried the best of the garbage home to his hogs, and took the rest to the disposal plant.

By 1953, the Grays had paid for their farm, remodeled their home, bought a tractor, and another truck, and had two hired workers hauling garbage for them. Today, they are providing garbage disposal service for eight large cafes and 1,300 families.



GARBAGE IS COOKED for his hogs in this tank by Albert Gray, (second from right) of the Nashville, Tenn., area. He is showing his cooker to three Tennessee Extension Service of-

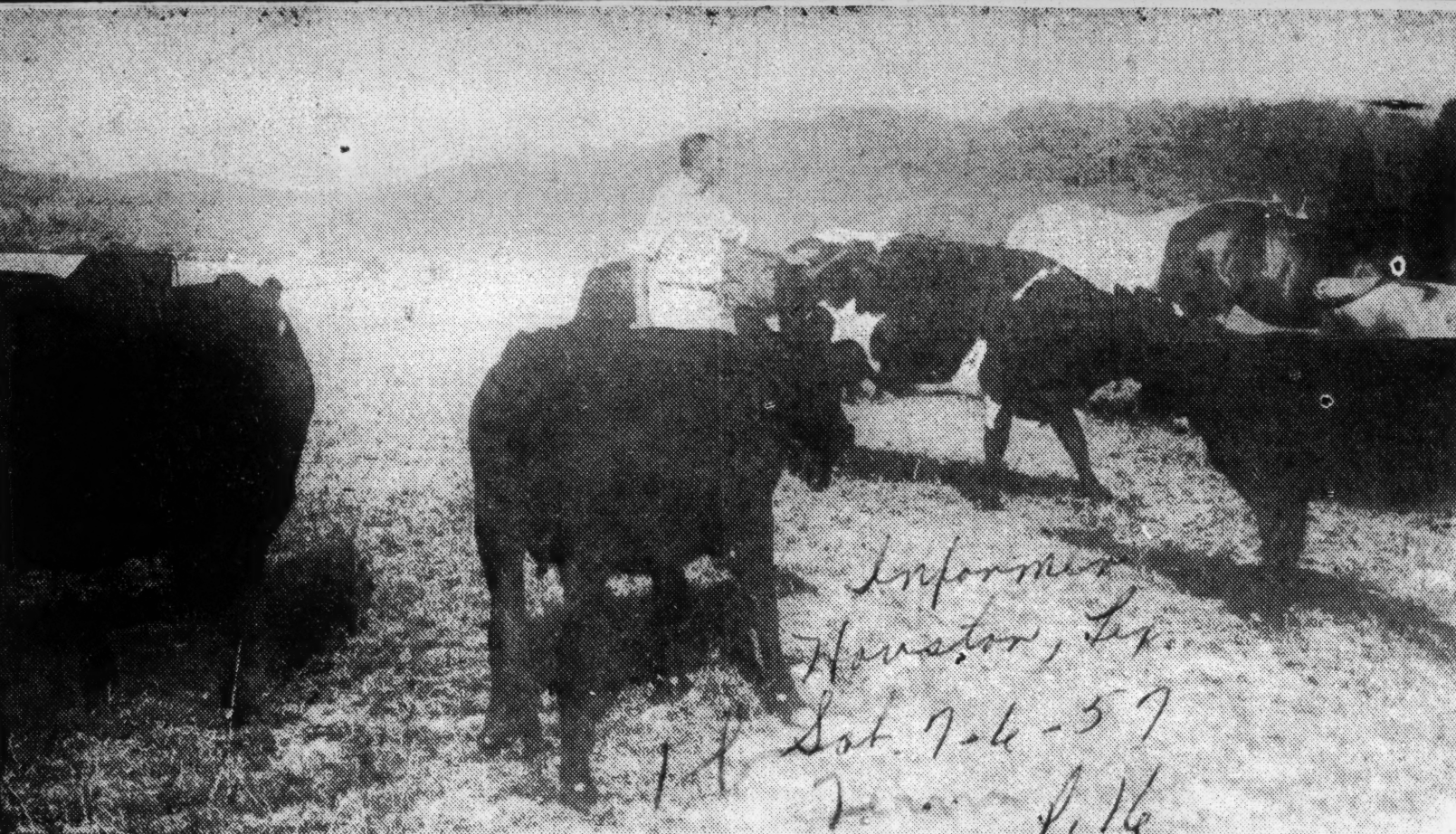
ficials. Left to right are: Arthur D. Brown, his county agent; Miss Bessie L. Walton, assistant state home demonstration agent; Mr. Gray; and W. H. Williamson, assistant state

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KEEPING RECORDS is an important part of successful farming, says Albert Gray of the Nashville, Tenn., area, who

is shown in his office and den with Mrs. Gray and one of their four children, Albert Jr. **USDA Photo.**



Setting Example in sound farming practices for his neighbors is Fred R. Henry, a former school teacher. He is shown with part of his cattle herd on his 100-acre farm.

Teacher Who Turned To Farming Setting Example For Neighbors

A school teacher who turned to farming 20 years ago is setting a good example in sound agricultural practices, says W. H. Williamson, assistant state agent of the Tennessee Extension Service, in a report to the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

The former teacher is Fred R. Henry, a Fisk University graduate, who owns 100 acres near Knoxville. He and Mrs. Henry and a sister live in a modern home overlooking Fort Loudon Lake which was formerly part of the winding Tennessee river.

"Mr. Henry always wanted to be a farmer," reports Mr. Williamson, "but he says he got sidetracked and ended up at Fisk and later at the University of Minnesota."

However, when his parents died some 20 years ago, he returned to the farm and has been there ever since, raising beef and dairy cattle, tobacco, grain, vegetables, poultry and eggs.

"I have 20 brood cows, mostly Angus with a few Holsteins and my land. A Soil Conservation Service technician from my Conservation District has helped me to make a land capability map of my farm and to plan my crops accordingly." He believes in farming efficiently, but he doesn't believe in going overboard buying machinery, Mr. Williamson points out. He and a neighbor have worked out a good arrangement. One or the other owns a tractor, hay baler, rake, mowing machine, manure spreader, and feed grinder. They take turns at sharing each other's equipment.

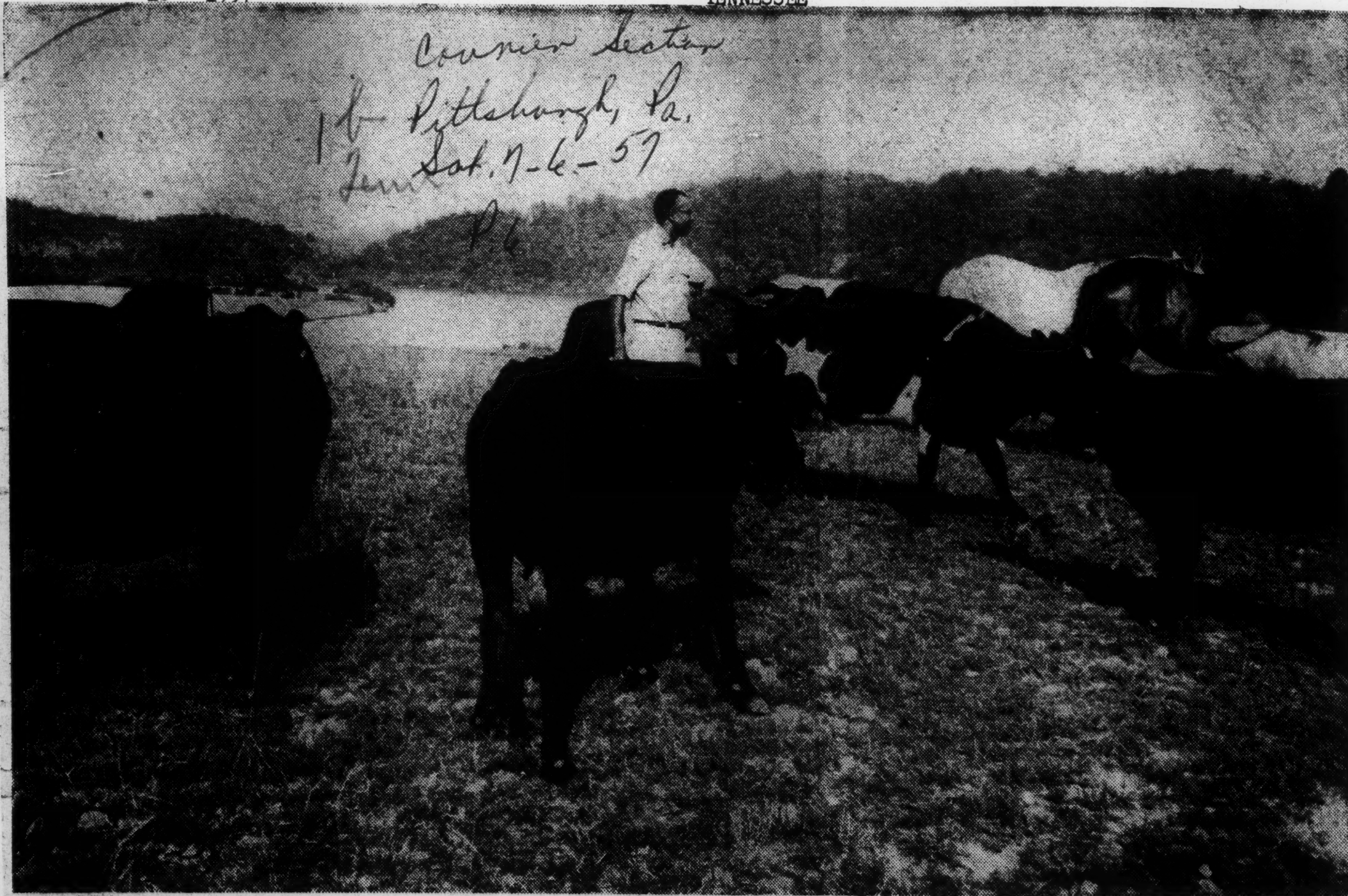
Mrs. Henry cans or home-freezes all the vegetables and fruits they do not sell. Her home agent, Miss Esther Hatcher, helps to keep her abreast of the latest methods of food preservation.

While his wife and sister are teaching school in nearby communities, he is out in the field on his tractor, plowing rows of tobacco or corn on the contour around the hills on his farm or performing some other chore. Last year he got a corn yield of 109 bushels to the acre - the sixth highest in his county.

"I get good yields," Mr. Henry says. "His farm is a good demonstration in sound practices for all his neighbors," says Mr. Williamson, "the lack of an agent in his county," he adds.

*Informant
Houston, Tex.
Sat. 7-6-57
J. H.*

*Informant
Houston, Tex.
Sat. 7-6-57*



SETTING EXAMPLE in sound farming practices for his neighbors is Fred R. Henry, a former school teacher. He is shown with part of his cattle herd on his 100-acre farm near Knoxville, Tenn.

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en some 20 years ago, he moved to the farm and has been there ever since, raising beef and dairy cattle, tobacco, grain, vegetables, poultry and eggs.

"I have 20 brood cows, mostly Angus with a few Holsteins and Jerseys mixed in," says Mr. Henry. "This way, we have plenty of milk for all the calves and for our customers in town to whom we sell about 40 gallons of buttermilk a week, as well as fruits and vegetables in season."

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■
MR. HENRY'S goal is to acquire another 100 acres to expand his pastures of ladino clover, orchard grass, and other grazing so that he may ultimately increase his herd to 50 brood cows and two registered bulls.

"His farm is a good demonstration in sound practices for all his neighbors," says Mr. Williamson. "It does a lot to make up for the lack of an agent in his county," he adds.



Commercial Appeal P. 5 Memphis Tenn.

CONTEST WINNERS—Mr. and Mrs. James H. Johnson of Route 1, Dyersburg, Dyer County, were selected as third place Tennessee landowner winners in the Negro Division of The Commercial Appeal's 1957 Plant To Prosper Contest. As a part of their live-at-home program they raise all of their meat requirements. Inspecting a beef calf and some broilers they had just dressed are (from left) Curtis Koonce, Negro county agent, and W. H. Williamson, assistant state agent in Negro extension work.

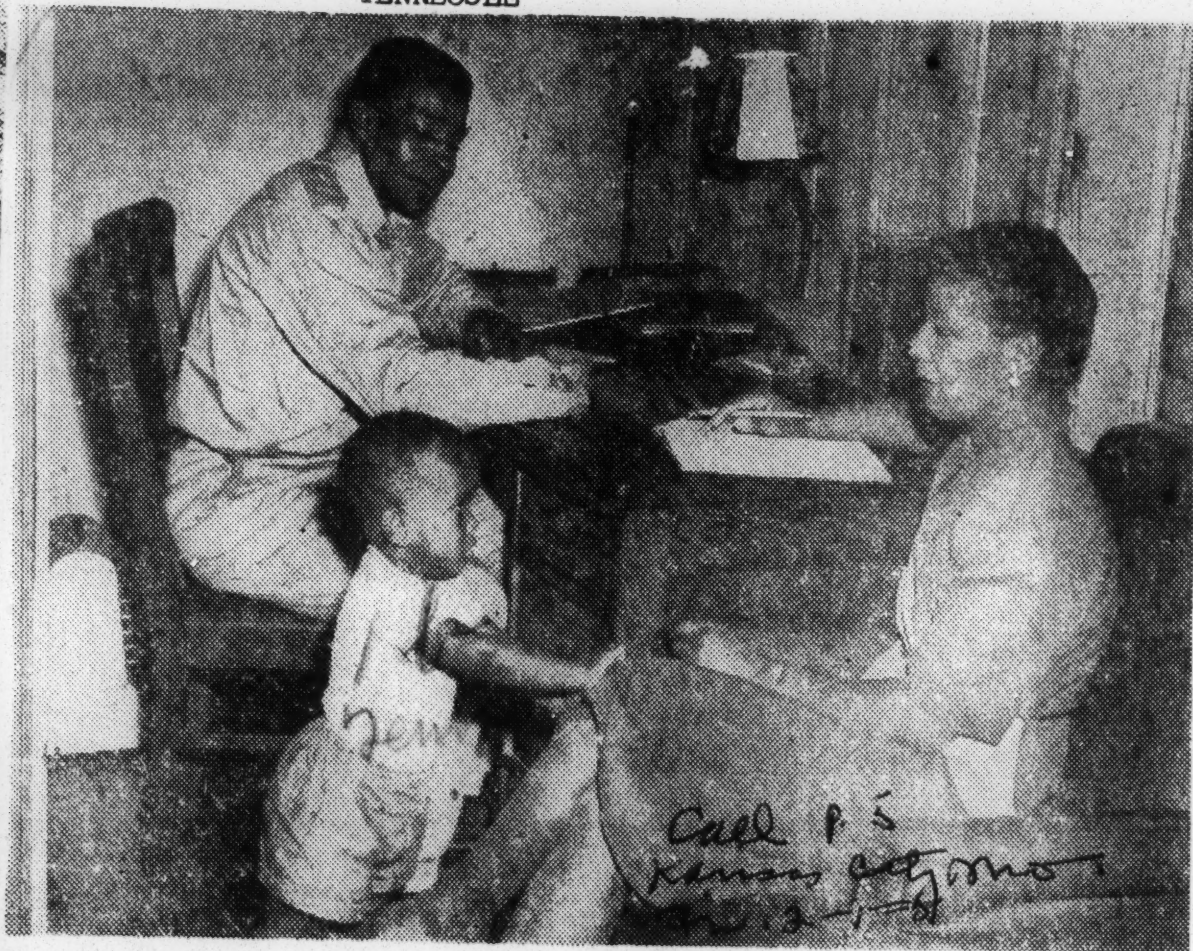
—Staff Photo

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WHERE GARBAGE IS COOKED. — Garbage is cooked for his hogs in this tank by Albert Gray, second from right, of the Nashville, Tenn., area. He is showing his cooker to three Tennessee Extension Service officials. Left to right are: Arthur D. Brown, his county agent; Miss Bessie L. Walton, assistant state home demonstration agent; Mr. Gray; and W. H. Williamson, assistant state agent. By cooking garbage before feeding it to his hogs, Mr. Gray helps protect them from a swine disease known as vesicular exanthema which was prevalent a few years ago. — USDA Photo.

TENNESSEE



KEEPING RECORDS IS IMPORTANT. — An important part of successful farming is keeping records, says Albert Gray of the Nashville,

Tenn., area, who is shown in his office and den with Mrs. Gray and one of their four children, Albert Jr. — USDA Photo.



HOGS FED COOKED GARBAGE. — Hogs are being fed cooked garbage by Albert Gray of the Nashville, Tenn., area, while his county agent, Arthur D. Brown, right, looks on. Cooked garbage is safe from the swine disease known as vesicular exanthema which was prevalent a few years ago. Mr. Gray feeds his hogs grain in addition to the cooked garbage. — USDA Photo.

Teacher Who Turned To Farming Setting Example For Neighbors

Daily World Thurs. 6-27-57 P.8
Atlanta, Ga.
A Tennessee school teacher who turned to farming 20 years ago is setting a good example in sound agricultural practices, says W. H. Williamson, assistant state agent of the Tennessee Extension Service, in a report to the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

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tures of ladino clover, orchard grass, and other grazing so that he may ultimately increase his herd to 50 brood cows and two registered bulls. "His farm is a good demonstration in sound practices for all his neighbors," says Mr. Williamson. "It does a lot to make up for the lack of an agent in his county," he adds.

Live At Home Division Rally Dec. 12 To Mark New Stride For Plant To Prosper Unit

Commercial Appeal
Memphis Tenn. P.7
Judging Of Operations, Homemaking Of Negro Farmers In Three States Begins Oct. 14—
\$70,000 In Prizes Await Winners

By WALTER DURHAM
Director, Plant To Prosper Bureau

A practical, personal farm program which has brought higher living standards, home and land ownership and economic security to a half-million Mid-South Negro farm families is nearing its 20th milestone.

Originated in 1938 and sponsored each year since by The Commercial Appeal with the co-operation of representatives of Federal and state farm agencies and the Live-At-Home Division of the Plant To Prosper Bureau, the Live-At-Home Division of the Plant To Prosper Bureau will climax one of the most successful years in its two decades of service at a rally at Booker T. Washington High School Dec. 12.

Before that, judging committees in mid-October will begin selecting county, state and sweepstakes winners from among 57,210 contestants to share 1957 cash prizes totaling about \$6,000.

Some In Contest 12 Years

Since it was launched 20 years ago, the Live-At-Home program has enrolled almost three-quarters of a million Negro farmers of Arkansas, Mississippi, Missouri and Tennessee. Some families have participated in the competition as many as 12 years.

It has paid around \$70,000 in cash to those who have done the best jobs of living at home, soil conservation, crop diversification and home improvement. Emphasis for the past three years has been on efficient farming and homemaking and participation in community affairs.

The prize winners aren't the only ones who have profited by the contest. Countless thousands have made money-making improvements in farming operations because of their participation in Live-At-Home, Negro farm leaders agree.

Can't Help But Do Better

"A farmer, just can't help but do better all around when he is in the Live-At-Home program," said F. E. Jeffries, Haywood County, Tenn., Negro extension agent. "He makes more money because he gives more thought and study to planning his crops and livestock. He treats his land better and he takes greater pride in his home."

Mrs. Ella Stackhouse, Negro home demonstration agent for Pemiscot and Dunklin counties,

Mo., reported, "Farmers who are in the Live-At-Home Contest are our best co-operators. They are ambitious to do better and are anxious to have us work with them. Record books of our contestants show the contest is helping them make progress each year."

Prof. T. R. Betton, Arkansas state Negro agricultural extension agent, credits the contest with inspiring and financially aiding many sharecroppers to become tenant farmers or cash renters—tenants to become land owners and many small land owners to become substantial farm operators.

Examples Of Progress

He cites as typical examples of progress in the Live-At-Home program the records of Mr. and Mrs. Cottrell Blair of Jefferson County, former tenants who own a debt-free 233-acre general farm; Mr. and Mrs. Charles J. Jackson, Phillips County dairy operators and cotton farmers who do a \$50,000-a-year business; and Mr. and Mrs. Cleveland Vaughan, who own a 107-acre farm in Crittenden County.

"The Blairs, Jacksons and the Vaughans are representative of hundreds of Arkansas Negro farmers who have been inspired to farm ownership and a better way of life by The Commercial Appeal's farm program," Prof. Betton said.

As Mrs. Florence D. Allen, Negro district home demonstration agent for North Mississippi sees it: "The Live-At-Home program has been directly responsible for the building of hundreds of new Negro farm homes and for the remodeling and re-pairing of many others."

Of Invaluable Aid

"The Live-At-Home program has been of invaluable aid to our people," declared W. H. Williamson, Tennessee state Negro extension agent. "Those who have taken part in the contest are standout farmers in their counties."

From William E. Ammons, Mississippi Negro leader in men's extension work, came the assertion that the Live-At-Home program "has aided in the rejuvenation of many Negro communities and has helped in establishing or re-establishing churches and schools."

Prize money offered by The Commercial Appeal in the contest this year totals \$540. The Memphis Chamber of Commerce gives \$250 and the Colored Tri-State Fair \$250.

Judging To Start Oct. 14

Of these awards, \$250 will go to the landowner sweepstakes champion, \$250 to the tenant sweepstakes champion, \$50 to the home improvement sweepstakes champion, \$50 to the Farm Operator Division sweepstakes champion and \$25 each to state winners in the Farm Operator and Home Improvement Divisions. State prizes in the Landowner and Tenant Divisions are \$50 for first, \$37.50 for second, \$32.50 for third and \$25 for fourth. About \$5,000 is offered at the local level by county groups and will go to county winners.

State judging in the contest will start Oct. 14, when the Tennessee committee, headed by H.

T. Short, district extension agent of Jackson, takes the field. Mississippi and Missouri contestants will be visited the week of Nov. 4, and Arkansas the week of Nov. 11.

Personnel of the Tennessee and Missouri committees will be announced.

On the Arkansas committee will be Prof. Betton, Mrs. Fannie Mae Boone, Negro home demonstration agent, and Learrie White, Negro farm development agent. On the Mississippi committee will be Mr. Ammons, Mrs. Allen, Mrs. Daisey M. Lewis, district home demonstration agent for South Mississippi, and Miss Alberta Dishmon, state 4-H Club leader.

Virginia Family To Be Given Progress Awards

Journal & Guide Sat. 4-27-57
Norfolk, Va.
BRUNSWICK COUNTY, Va. — A Virginia family that started farming way back before World War I with 30 acres of land and a horse, and who today owns a completely modern farm of some 357 acres, will be cited May 16 for their distinguished accomplishments in agriculture and rural living. The family of John H. Mac-

nual gross farm income for the Maclin family for the past five years has been in excess of \$8,000.00.

* * *

MR. AND MRS. Maclin have eight children and nine grandchildren. John, Jr. is a masonry contractor and operates a business near Lawrenceville. Raymond lives in New York. Her-

The family of John H. Macman is a local farm agent in lin Sr., of nearby Warfield, Va., Brunswick County. Paul is a will receive the award from general contractor. Murray is the Negro State Agricultural Advisory Board Award.

York. Bernice is a school teacher in Brunswick County. Beatrice and Jeannette are residing near Lawrenceville with their families.

P. H. STONE of the USDA Federal Extension Service will be guest speaker at the presentation which will be held on the Maclin Farm.

The Maclins have a unique success story fashioned by working hard and by keeping pace with the changing times. After their meager start before World War I, they were able to build a home in 1918.

The family was among the first to work with the Extension Service. Their sons served as 4-H club demonstrators as early as 1928. As of 1956 the Maclins own 357 acres of land, modern home with all necessary conveniences and appliances for good living. The farm is completely mechanized.

The Maclins have been influential in improving their community and county. Mr. Maclin is a member of the County Agricultural Advisory Board and of the Agronomy Committee. He is also a member of the Piney Grove Baptist Church. He served as treasurer of the church for 30 years, and is a member of the Board of Trustees. As a member of the Brunswick County Civic Organization, Mr. Maclin aided in securing free tuition for county high school students, free bus transportation to the high school, and assisted in securing a county owned and operated high school.

* * *

THE CROP LAND at present consists of 16 acres of hybrid corn with an average yield of 64 bushels per acre, 15 acres of good pasture, 4 acres of alfalfa, 27 acres of pasture and hay, 11 acres of small grain, one acre devoted to vegetable garden, 16.7 acres of tobacco and 247 acres in woodland. Mr. Maclin is considered one of the outstanding tobacco growers of Virginia. Livestock on the farm consists of 35 head of hogs and 10 head of beef cattle.

Along with the farming operations, the Maclin family operates a saw mill. During spare time the mill is operated to saw lumber for farm use and local people. The average an-

1b 1957

YOUNG HOMEMAKER OF THE YEAR AWARD



ARIEL J. DAVIS



BETTY J. PHELPS

Contestants—

Ariel Josephine Davis and Betty Jean Phelps are the Niagara Falls (N. Y.) Community Center Girls Club candidates for the "Young Homemaker of the Year" award. Girls from America and Canada are competing for the honor at the national conference of Girls Clubs of America, Inc., in New York City.